

Today's News - Tuesday, January 3, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: And so a new year begins...we wish everyone happiness, good health, prosperity - and peace.

- von Kaenel considers what the Trump Administration could mean for green buildings: it may not bode well on the federal level, but most policies re: green building are set at the local level - "whoever's in federal office doesn't affect the industry that much."
- Lamster pens an open letter to Ben Carson re: the need for a HUD makeover, and hopes he "will turn to those professionals who have pragmatic experience in the [affordable housing] field, and not to think-tank ideologues who don't."
- King cheers Saitowitz's "boxy collage" that is Garden Village housing with a farm on top - it's "like nothing that you've seen. Done right, infill development can transcend the current norm. It can add a nudge of surprise to familiar terrain."
- Moore finds the Estonian National Museum to be "touching and revealing" - it is "a contrasting combination of national and international, folkloric and modern, charged and cool"; it "could be both triumphalist and sentimental, but it is neither."
- Gallagher cheers O'Herlihy making his mark on Detroit with several projects - the "most intriguing work" being the African Bead Museum.
- Dickinson sees a ray of hope for Breuer's Pirelli Tire Building in New Haven, CT, "long assumed to be the target of its owner IKEA's demolition-by-neglect strategy," it now "has new shoots of interest in its adaptive reuse - and IKEA is listening."
- Davidson has no problem imagining a future with wooden skylines as CLT and glulam give "architects and builders a chance to think in fresh ways - the future is not far away."
- Lubinsky and Lipson explain how their new electric car-sharing program for two Manhattan buildings could be a model for other municipalities - for both luxury apartment buildings and new affordable housing projects.
- Sanders eloquently reflects on his longtime collaboration with Balmori: "Once in a lifetime, fortune puts us in contact with an individual who changes how we see the world."
- Wainwright, along with architects, activists, and writers from everywhere, reflect on "how their cities should change in the next year."
- Kamin lays out his list of "architecture to watch for in early 2017."
- Springer lays out her pick for 2017's most anticipated buildings: "In 2016, we watched a number of ambitious buildings transform skylines. 2017 is just as promising."
- King takes a second look at San Francisco buildings he reviewed in 2016: "The initial reviews contemplated the object. This piece looks at the aftermath."
- Grabar lays out his list of "the best things America built in 2016," each "an original work of architecture that doesn't look quite like anything else we've got (+ a Turkey Award to a project with the name Trump attached)."
- Eyefuls of the "22 most beautiful buildings in the world," according to 22 architects "who build them for a living."
- One we couldn't resist: "10 New Year's resolutions for architects" (our fave: #6: Design with humor).
- Call for entries deadline reminder: Record Houses 2017 (deadline looms!).

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Camille von Kaenel: What the New Administration Could Mean for Green Buildings: Federal buildings have been seen as leaders in energy-efficient retrofits and new green construction - but that could change...The vast majority of policies that could affect green building...is set at the local level..."whoever's in federal office doesn't affect the industry that much. There's tremendous innovation going on..." - Architectural Record

Mark Lamster: An open letter to Ben Carson: It's time to remake HUD - or at least give it a new name: ...the challenges of the American housing system. Perhaps you are thinking, well, at least it's not brain surgery - something at which you are expert - and in that I would agree. It is far, far more difficult...I hope you will turn to those professionals who have pragmatic experience in the field, and not to think-tank ideologues who don't. - Dallas Morning News

John King: Berkeley sprouts creative housing, topped by a working farm: ...the boxy collage of Garden Village is like nothing that you've seen...Cozy turns captivating as you ascend...topped by...one-third of an acre of "land"...available for farming...Done right, infill development can transcend the current norm of standardized product. It can add a nudge of surprise to familiar terrain... -- Stanley Saitowitz | Natoma Architects; Nautilus Group [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

Rowan Moore: Estonian National Museum - touching and revealing: Situated on a former Soviet airfield and created by a multinational team in the middle of nowhere, [it] is an unlikely success: ...what the site lacks in accessibility it makes up for in significance...took more than a decade...to be realised...The outcome is a contrasting combination of national and international, folkloric and modern, charged and cool...[it] could be both triumphalist and sentimental, but it is neither...displays are touching and revealing rather than heroic. -- Dorell.Ghotmeh.Tane / Architects/DGT [images] - Observer (UK)

John Gallagher: New to Detroit, Lorcan O'Herlihy Makes His Mark: ...has garnered several important commissions...Perhaps [his] most intriguing work will be at the African Bead Museum...His first big project has been the design for the four corner buildings in Dan Gilbert's ambitious Brush Park mixed-use development... -- LOHA - Detroit Free Press

Duo Dickinson: After A Dozen Years, Interest In Adaptive Reuse Of Pirelli Building: ...a zombie building, long assumed by preservationists to be the target of its owner IKEA's demolition-by-neglect strategy, has new shoots of interest in its adaptive reuse - and IKEA is listening. -- Marcel Breuer (1969) [image] - Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

Justin Davidson: Imagining a Wooden Skyline: New structural systems come along rarely, and when they do, they usually wind up transforming cities...mass timber [CLT and glulam] could have a...radical impact, because it gives architects and builders a chance to think in fresh ways - "the first new way to put up tall buildings in 100 years"...the future is not far away... -- Team V Architecture; Michael Green; SHoP Architects; Anders Berensson Architects [images] - New York Magazine

Adam Lubinsky and Paul Lipson: New car-sharing program could put charge

into NYC's electric-vehicle use: Residents of two Manhattan buildings have a fleet of BMWs to share...other municipalities might consider incentivizing developers...This model isn't just for luxury apartment buildings or dense urban areas. We also see the potential for EV car sharing in new affordable housing projects by incentivizing developers with density bonuses. -- WXY architecture + urban design; Barretto Bay Strategies - Crain's New York Business

Joel Sanders: Her longtime collaborator reflects on Diana Balmori's contributions: Once in a lifetime, fortune puts us in contact with an individual who changes how we see the world. -- Balmori Associates - Architectural Record

Oliver Wainwright et al: 'Walking buses' and council housing: a wishlist for world cities in 2017: From post-Olympics Rio de Janeiro to unaffordable London, we hear from architects, activists and writers on how their cities should change in the next year. -- Aditi Mittal; Saskia Sassen; Kengo Kuma; Pedro Rivera/Rua Arquitetos; Victoria Okoye/African Urbanism; Rob Lake/Access Sydney Community Transport - Guardian (UK)

Blair Kamin: From Obama Library plans to a riverfront eye-grabber: Architecture to watch for in early 2017: ...Frank Lloyd Wright will re-enter the spotlight... -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Goettsch Partners; Harboe Architects; KPMB Architects; Dan Kiley; Stantec - Chicago Tribune

Kate Springer: New year, new buildings: 2017's most anticipated openings: A lot can happen in a year, especially in the ever-evolving world of architecture. In 2016, we watched a number of ambitious buildings transform skylines...2017 is just as promising. -- Zaha Hadid Architects; Jean Nouvel; BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Heatherwick Studio; MAD Architects; COBE; Büro Ole Scheeren; Studio KO; Renzo Piano Building Workshop; Met Studio Design; Haim Dotan [images] - CNN Style

John King: Second look at SF's top buildings of 2016: This is the time of year when critics roll out the best-of lists...Buildings deserve something more: fresh scrutiny...I'm wrapping up 2016 by revisiting significant buildings that I critiqued this year...The initial reviews contemplated the object. This piece looks at the aftermath... -- Thomas Phifer and Partners; Snøhetta; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; EHDD; Foster + Partners; Pelli Clarke Pelli [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

Henry Grabar: The Best Things America Built in 2016: A museum. A medical school. A synagogue: Each one is an original work of architecture...that doesn't look quite like anything else we've got...signposts by which we'll know the places we live. -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Philip Johnson (1972)/William Rawn Associates; Rafael Viñoly; Gary Cunningham; David Adjaye; Laura Viklund/Gunnstock Timber Frames; Rem Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Min | Day [images] - Slate

The 22 most beautiful buildings in the world, according to architects: We asked architects to tell us the one building that's a game-changer for building design, inspired them to become architects, or that they simply find stunning....according to people who build them for a living. [images] - Business Insider

10 New Year's Resolutions for Architects: You wake up with a glint in your eye and hope in your heart...Then, you remember ... you're still an architect. Well,

there's nothing like a good new year's resolution...#1: Sketch more; #6: Design with humor - Architizer

Call for entries (deadline reminder!): Record Houses 2017 (international); deadline: February 15 - Architectural Record

This week at ARCspace

Zaha Hadid Architects: Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: ...melds local traditions with innovative geometries, creating an architectural manifestation of the Institute's ideals of opportunity, pluralism, creativity and tolerance. By Jason Dibbs [images]

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Today's News - Wednesday, January 4, 2017

- A sad way to start the news day: Quito pens a thoughtful tribute to Lella Vignelli that is so much more than a dry obit (please read!).
- Bernstein reports on a panel discussion re: can environmentalists keep environmentalism alive during a Trump presidency? (we can only hope!)
- The other side of the coin: a new survey shows a "surge in optimism" among U.S. engineering firms that are "enthusiastic about Trump."
- Taylor-Hochberg offers a fascinating round-up of how deans of architecture schools "are responding to Trump and what they were telling their students."
- Von Koenig ponders Zellner's Free School of Architecture initiative that "opens up more questions than gratifying answers. But how many questions are too many questions when it's students' education at stake?"
- In the U.K, architecture and design schools are warned that they could "hit the wall" because of Brexit: it's leading to "a 'brain drain' of teaching staff and a drop in student numbers," meaning "creative businesses could suffer a skills shortage."
- It is unclear whether the EU will allow British cities to vie to be European Capital of Culture 2023 once Brexit's Article 50 kicks in.
- Musca explains how "fake news" on social media "could set Los Angeles down a dangerous path" with an odious, "aggressive piece of legislation" that "should have urbanists sweating."
- Makovsky, on a brighter note, cheers Taipei's success as World Design Capital 2016 in a showcase of some of "the city's pioneering, design-led urban strategies."
- Hosey "spent months pondering, visiting, and looking" at the new National Museum of African American History and Culture, resulting in "four different ways of seeing the museum: historical, political, cultural, and environmental" (plan to spend some time here!).
- An unexpected deal between Hong Kong and Beijing will result in a branch of Beijing's Palace Museum to be built in HK's West Kowloon Cultural District, designed by Rocco Yim.
- King cheers a proposal to build a floating pier topped off with a fire station on San Francisco's Embarcadero: it "would be a novelty - and a relatively trouble-free one at that, at least on paper."
- Pedersen queries Washburn, NYC's former Chief Urban Designer, re: his "storefront urban design initiative" in his own home - he "is surely the most impressively-credentialed urban planner to ever set up shop in [Brooklyn's] scruffy Red Hook."
- One of the most eloquent tributes we've ever read to a "sublime slab of the 1960s" by the Smithsons, as The Economist bids farewell to its "formative home": "Over the years the building has shaped The Economist in several ways, some good, some less so."
- London can bid farewell to Heatherwick's Routemaster as Mayor Sadiq Khan cancels orders for the (not much-loved) bus, with the funds used for better purposes (like keeping fares from going up).
- Butcher parses a passel of surveys to figure out why there's a talent shortage, especially among women, in the A/E/C industry, and what can be done: "Look in the mirror. Maybe it is the firm that is the real problem, not the lack of talent."
- Welton cheers landscape architect Hoversten taking the helm at North Carolina State University's College of Design.
- File this under oh-no-not-another-one! After 19 years, the Austin American-Statesman lets go its only (and one of our fave) arts critic, Jeanne Claire van Ryzin, to be replaced with freelancers who "aren't likely to replace her

sense of mission."

- On a happier note: Eyefuls of the Inspireli Awards 2016 winners.



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Obituary: Anne Quito: A legendary husband-and-wife design team fought to get her equal credit for 40 years: "If she says it's wrong, I don't even argue because I know she's right"...Lella Vignelli, 82...rarely got the spotlight she deserved despite her husband's efforts. She passed away peacefully in New York City on Dec. 21...Massimo Vignelli was Lella's first and last champion. - Quartz

Fred A. Bernstein: Keeping environmentalism alive during a Trump presidency: What now? Will environmentalists be able to make any headway in the next four years? ..."is it going to be completely antagonistic?"...could there be common ground...If the federal government steps away from enforcing environmental regulations, the onus may shift to state and local governments. - The Architect's Newspaper

Engineering Firms Enthusiastic About Trump: Surge in optimism noted among U.S. engineering firm leaders: ...according to the American Council of Engineering Companies' Engineering Business Index (EBI)...“We finally have a president who understands business!”...Some respondents, however, expressed reservations... - Builder magazine

Amelia Taylor-Hochberg: Deans List Special: How Architecture School Leaders are Responding to Trump: ...we've been reaching out to academic leaders from across the U.S. to hear how they were handling Trump's presidency - and what they were telling their students. -- Hernan Diaz Alonso/SCI-Arc; Amale Andraos/Columbia University GSAPP; Mohsen Mostafavi/Harvard Graduate School of Design; Jonathan Massey/California College of the Arts; Nader Tehrani/Cooper Union; Sarah Whiting/Rice School of Architecture - Archinect

Gretchen Von Koenig: Peter Zellner's New Architecture School Promises Free Tuition (and a Radical Curriculum). But Will It Work? ...the Free School of Architecture (FSA)...initiative opens up more questions than gratifying answers - and that, he sometimes inadvertently suggests, is the point...But how many questions is too many questions when it's students' education at stake? - Metropolis Magazine

Design schools will "hit the wall" due to Brexit, warns The Council for Higher Education in Art & Design: ...has led to a "brain drain" of teaching staff and a drop in student numbers...warns that universities will be forced to shut down...leading to warnings that creative businesses could suffer a skills shortage. - Dezeen

UK cities vie to be European Capital of Culture 2023 despite Brexit: It is not yet known whether the EU will proceed with letting the UK host after Article 50 has been triggered. However, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's announcement suggests it is proceeding under the assumption that a UK city will host the event in 2023. - BBC

Thomas Musca: Mised Millennials: How Fake News Could Set Los Angeles

Down A Dangerous Path: ...the electorate will vote on an aggressive piece of legislation, one which has been dangerously misrepresented on social media...would place an immediate two-year-long moratorium on most new development...an energized irrational minority...can defeat an unenthusiastic, levelheaded majority...[its] new momentum and lackadaisical opposition should have urbanists sweating. - Metropolis Magazine

Paul Makovsky: Made in Taipei: Taipei's designation as this year's World Design Capital...is a recognition of the city's pioneering, design-led urban strategies: Under the theme "Adaptive City: Design in Motion," [it] is demonstrating why cities must be able to adapt to citizens' demands and raise their standard of living through design thinking...Even Taiwan's president, Tsai Ing-wen, weighed in on the importance of design... -- International Council of Societies of Industrial Design [images] - Metropolis Magazine

Lance Hosey: Ways of Seeing A Museum: ...the new National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington, DC...I spent months pondering, visiting, and looking, trying to see it more clearly...[my] reflections offer four different ways of seeing the museum: historical, political, cultural, and environmental; "The Hidden History of Cities"; "The Space of Resistance"; "African American Architecture Criticism"; "The Greenest Museum in Washington" -- David Adjaye; Max Bond; Philip Freelon; Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroupJJR [images] - Huffington Post

Hong Kong will build branch of Beijing's Palace Museum: Deal signed to show Imperial treasures in new West Kowloon museum: The 30,500 sq. m museum will be funded with a \$450m donation from the Hong Kong Jockey Club...will likely have a contemporary style as it will be designed by Rocco Yim... -- Rocco Design Architects - The Art Newspaper (UK)

John King: Floating pier considered as site for key Embarcadero fire station: SF's Fire Department might have the answer for how best to ride out sea level rise: build a pier that floats and top it off with a two-story fire station...would be a novelty - and a relatively trouble-free one at that, at least on paper...Once there's a team on board and a design in hand, the real work begins... - San Francisco Chronicle

Martin C. Pedersen: Q&A: NYC's Former Chief Urban Designer Sets Up Shop in Red Hook, Brooklyn: Alexandros Washburn is surely the most impressively-credentialed urban planner to ever set up shop in scruffy Red Hook...attempting to help create a citizen's voice that can articulate some community-based alternatives to [two] threats..."What we are doing right now is the kind of leg work that should be done in any neighborhood that needs to change." - Common Edge

The Economist bids farewell to a formative home: Goodbye 25 St James's Street: When The Economist hired them...Peter and Alison Smithson had built only a suburban house in Watford and a school in Norfolk...This sublime slab of the 1960s is the only home it has ever known...Over the years the building has shaped The Economist in several ways, some good, some less so...We do...want to bring something of the tower to our new home in the Adelphi - a modernised Art Deco building... - The Economist (UK)

London mayor stops orders for Thomas Heatherwick's Routemaster bus: Sadiq Khan first suggested his plan...during his own election campaign...the funds will instead go towards upgrading the city's existing fleet with the latest sustainable technologies. [images] - Dezeen

Scott Butcher: There's A Talent Shortage - So Why Are We Chasing Away Half the Potential Workforce? Women Continue to Face Myriad Challenges in the A/E/C Industry: Based upon...various surveys, here's some things that firms should begin doing immediately: Understand that there is a problem...look in the mirror. Maybe it is the firm that is the real problem, not the lack of talent. - ENR/Engineering News Record

J. Michael Welton: A landscape architect takes helm at North Carolina State University's College of Design: A change agent, Mark Hoversten is known also for merging fundraising and entrepreneurial qualities in charismatic and personable ways...There are also new trends to incorporate into the school's agenda. - News & Observer (North Carolina)

Not Very Statesman-like: The daily of record's release of Jeanne Claire van Ryzin, its only full-time arts critic, isn't getting good reviews: Aside from the sheer volume of writing...(a whopping 250 articles or so a year), the critic has a unique strength coming from 19 years on the beat, not only reporting but actively shaping the cultural landscape with access to the wide and the long views...Unassisted freelancers aren't likely to replace [her] sense of mission. - Austin Chronicle (Texas)

Results: Inspireli Awards 2016: ...1,052 competitors from 99 countries and more than 300 universities...Competitors from Italy, Japan and Iran became the winners and the competitor from France won in the public voting. -- Giacomo Garziano; Daiki Watanabe; Magdalena Tröbinger; Somayeh Ravanshadnia; Saïd Belmir [images] - International Union of Architects (UIA)

This week at ARCspace

Zaha Hadid Architects: Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: ...melds local traditions with innovative geometries, creating an architectural manifestation of the Institute's ideals of opportunity, pluralism, creativity and tolerance. By Jason Dibbs [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, January 5, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days...we'll be back Tuesday, January 10.

- It's now Sir David (Adjaye) and Sir Ricky (Burdett) to us peasants.
- LaValley ponders "architecture and ego": "Who is architecture for - the architect - the user - the world? Does it matter? It's not an easy question to answer."
- Dittmar cheers the U.K. "putting the idea of new settlements on the table again," but it needs to "be more explicit in requiring and providing the resources for master planning and design guidance" (reading Ebenezer Howard's "Garden Cities of Tomorrow" wouldn't hurt, either).
- A new plan by a new team looks to transform Hobart's Macquarie Point into "a cultural precinct celebrating Tasmania's Aboriginal history"; needless to say the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre folks are more than disappointed that they weren't consulted.
- WXY and Body Lawson have big plans to transform the "infamous" (and that's putting mildly) Spofford Juvenile Detention Center in the Bronx into an idyllic affordable housing mixed-use development.
- Plensa to plant one of his always-striking sculptures on a plaza overlooking the Pacific for the KPF-designed Pacific Gate development in San Diego.
- A fascinating look at how the ancients recycled buildings and building elements for any number of reasons - including propaganda (our new word for the day: "spolia").
- Eyefuls of the latest round in the Fairy Tale Architecture series, this time by Snøhetta, Ultramoderne, Smiljan Radic, and Bernheimer Architecture (a frog included).
- Spend some time tooling around "10 Digital Archives Worth Staying Inside For" (+ a few more to keep you really busy!).
- Sitz's Q&A with Cesal re: why the Curry Stone Design Prize decided to celebrate its 10th anniversary with Social Design Circle of 100 projects and firms, and a year-long podcast series (launching today - it sounds terrific!).
- Call for entries: eVolo 2017 Skyscraper Competition + Bandirma Park (Turkey) International Design Competition for a new genre of urban park + Call for Presentations for 2017 Healthcare Design Conference & Expo.
- Weekend diversions:
- Wainwright parses "Zaha Hadid: Early Paintings and Drawings" at the Hadid-designed Serpentine Sackler Gallery in London that offers "unparalleled insight into the creative process of her early years" - but "are cracks appearing in Hadid's legacy?"
- Lange cheers the "rugged vision" of the Lawrence Halprin show at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC, that celebrates his legacy, and hopes to help "in its recognition and protection."
- Iovine finds much to like in the Pierre Chareau show at the Jewish Museum in NYC: "a kaleidoscopic exhibition" of "a master of contrast" showcasing "the intersection of luxury, patronage, and avant-garde art."
- Davidson digs Goldin and Lubell's "Never Built New York": "sure, the vast majority of these projects were better off dead. But even so, it will keep right on provoking gasps at the sheer, lunatic audacity emblazoned on every page."
- MoMA's Stierli revisits Venturi's "Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture" that "fundamentally changed how we look at, think and talk about architecture."

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David Adjaye knighthood tops 2017 honours list: ...Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)...Ricky Burdett & Paul Cheshire/London School of Economics (LSE) received a CBE [Commander of the Order of the British Empire] for services to urban planning and design...Anthony Wilson/AECOM received Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE); etc. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Michael LaValley: Architecture and Ego: The Architect's Unique Struggle With "Good" Design: Who Is Architecture For? Is it for the architect? Is it for the user? Is it for the world? Does it matter? It's not an easy question to answer. - Architizer

Hank Dittmar: Garden towns need some garden city thinking to succeed: Ebenezer Howard's Garden Cities were carefully planned with strict design codes and infrastructure...The same principles should be applied to the new garden villages and towns: The Government is to be commended for putting the idea of new settlements on the table again. But...policy should be more explicit in requiring and providing the resources for master planning and design guidance...It wouldn't hurt to require all the winning proposers to read Howard's "Garden Cities of Tomorrow," either. - BD/Building Design (UK)

MONA [Museum of Old and New Art] calls on old friend for Hobart's Macquarie Point Development redesign: ...different to one designed by John Wardle Architects, 1+2 Architecture, Leigh Woolley Architecture & Urban Design, Inspiring Place, Taylor Cullity Lethlean, Village Well and Navire...new plans would see the industrial site transformed into a cultural precinct celebrating Tasmania's Aboriginal history...consultation...didn't include consultation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre... -- Fender Katsalidis; Rush Wright Associates [images] - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Prison Break: A notorious former Bronx prison site to become affordable housing: ...to transform the infamous Spofford Juvenile Detention Center into the Peninsula, a \$300 million project that will create 740 units of 100 percent affordable housing...[will bring] retail, community, and green space [and] light industrial space to the Hunts Point neighborhood. -- WXY architecture + urban design; Body Lawson Associates [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Art for the 1%: Public art component added to San Diego's "Super Prime" Pacific Gate development by KPF: ...installation by Jaume Plensa...to adorn a plaza at the foot of the Pacific Gate development in San Diego...made with stylized characters from [many] alphabets...takes the shape of a seated individual looking out over the Pacific Ocean. -- Kohn Pedersen Fox Architects; Hirsch Bedner Associates (HBA); Chris Dikeakos Architects [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Candace Richards/Nicholson Museum: Reinventing heritage buildings isn't new at all - the ancients did it too: Ancient architectural recycling falls into two broad categories: adaptive reuse of immovable structures...and reuse of architectural elements...The Arch of Constantine, where recycling even serves the purpose of propaganda. [images] - The Conversation (Australia)

Fairy Tale Architecture. Curated by Kate Bernheimer and Andrew

Bernheimer...exploring the intimate relationship between the domestic structures of fairy tales and the imaginative realm of architecture: "Tiddalik the Frog" by Snøhetta; "Flatland" by Ultramoderne; "Gripho" by Smiljan Radic; "The Seven Ravens" by Bernheimer Architecture [images] - Places Journal

10 Digital Archives Worth Staying Inside For: From museum collections to digitized notebooks to material libraries, these archives are sure to please any curious mind. And you don't even need to leave your couch to access them. - Metropolis Magazine

Miriam Sitz: Interview with the Curry Stone Design Prize's Eric Cesal: This year, the organization will launch a podcast and name 100 projects and firms to the Social Design Circle: "...we now live in a time when social designers are earning Pritzker prizes. We wanted...to validate the progress that has been made in the field"...weekly podcast, launching January 5, called Social Design Insights. - Architectural Record

Call for entries: eVolo 2017 Skyscraper Competition (international); cash prizes; cash prizes; registration deadline: January 24 (submissions due February 7) - eVolo Magazine

Call for entries: Bandirma Park (Turkey) International Design Competition: a new genre of park creating a recreational center at the regional scale; (big!) cash prizes; registration deadline: February 3 (submissions due February 24) - Balikesir Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey

Call for entries: Call for Presentations: 2017 Healthcare Design Conference & Expo, November 11-14; Kissimmee, Florida; deadline: February 1 - Center for Health Design

Oliver Wainwright: Zaha Hadid: from flaming sketchbooks to global phenomenon: Her gravity-defying buildings took her signature whoosh around the world. But as her early explosive paintings go on show and one of her final creations opens, are cracks appearing in Hadid's legacy? "Zaha Hadid: Early Paintings and Drawings" at the [Hadid-designed] Serpentine Sackler Gallery, London - Guardian (UK)

Alexandra Lange: Celebrating a Rugged Vision of Landscape Architecture: "The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin" at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC...The role of this exhibition is not only to celebrate Halprin's legacy, but also to aid in its recognition and protection. -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation [images] - New York Times

Julie V. Iovine: "Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design": An Alchemist of Materials:

Largely forgotten by the time of his death in 1950, [he] was a master of contrast...a kaleidoscopic exhibition at the Jewish Museum in New York...The intersection of luxury, patronage and avant-garde art is also a theme of the exhibition. -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro [images] - Wall Street Journal

Justin Davidson: As the Second Avenue Subway Opens, a Look at Things That Didn't: ...if you want to see what real vision looks like, crack open "Never Built New York" by Greg Goldin and Sam Lubell, a fine chronicle of the counterfactual

city...for fans of fantasy urbanism...sure, the vast majority of these projects were better off dead. But even so...[it] will keep right on provoking gasps at the sheer, lunatic audacity emblazoned on every page. - New York Magazine

Martino Stierli/MoMA: 50 years of Complexity and Contradiction: Robert Venturi's book has enduring significance in a complex and contradictory age: Not many architecture books have defined a specific historical moment in the way Robert Venturi's "Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture"...[it] fundamentally changed how we look at, think and talk about architecture. - Architectural Review (UK)

This week at ARCspace

Zaha Hadid Architects: Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: ...melds local traditions with innovative geometries, creating an architectural manifestation of the Institute's ideals of opportunity, pluralism, creativity and tolerance. By Jason Dibbs
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Today's News - Tuesday, January 10, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: We have an early-morning commitment tomorrow, but we'll be back Thursday, January 12.

- Lange considers what Late Modernism is and why we should care: with their "beefy bold shapes sticking their sharp corners in our faces," these buildings are "more refined than Brutalism, less picturesque than Postmodernism," and important to current and future design.
- Zeiger ponders the fate of L.A.'s Late Modernist landmarks: once "architectural harbingers of coming urban utopia now have to prove their relevance. Rejected and outmoded, can late modernism find love?"
- Campanella considers New Orleanians' rejection of Modernist architecture in the 1980s and 1990s: "For a city that for centuries had eagerly ingested the latest thinking in architecture, nostalgia-driven design was something new. Where did it come from?"
- Architects and urban planners weigh in on how Trump should spend \$1 trillion on infrastructure: Let's not "spend \$1 trillion as quickly as possible - but make sure the plan is thoughtful, regardless of party."
- Dickinson parses "a clearly defined separation between the Blue Academic Elite and Red Building Architects: "for good or for ill, there is an Architectural Electoral College that picks winners and losers."
- BNIM's Bona, 2017 President, AIA San Diego, explains why San Diegans "need to stop being NIMBYs and become YIMBYs," once TODs get a "makeover" and are no longer considered "toxic" - this "holistic approach is in fact an elegant solution to the complex problem."
- Krier minces no words when it comes to skyscrapers, whether "designed by world-class architects or hacks - they're destroying our cities" (as expected, comments are interesting, too).
- Sadik-Khan proposes turning Fifth Avenue from Central Park to the Empire State Building into a pedestrian-friendly stretch: "This isn't just a feel-good experiment in civics, nor is it a public transit boondoggle" - it could "be that sweet spot where urbanism, transportation engineering, democracy and politics can align."
- Kimmelman ventures to Detroit, and cheers the city lighting up with 65,000 new LED streetlights, "sending a message: It's O.K. to come out after dark - an example of how one smart urban-design decision can have ripple effects."
- Fairs reports on RIBA's assertion that "UK architects will still be able to pitch for public work in Europe after Brexit," but perhaps things "are not as straightforward as the RIBA suggests."
- Meanwhile, the U.K.'s former building regulations minister is heading up a working group to review Brexit's impact on the construction industry.
- Leonard offers a great chronicle of George Lucas trying to "give his \$1.5 billion museum away," from the Presidio's Crissy Field and Chicago, to Round 3, "pitting San Francisco and Los Angeles against each other - his preference is probably San Francisco" (the illustrations are a hoot!).
- Lamster reviews the designs for the new Texas Rangers ballpark: hopefully, "a misplaced and overgrown Roman aqueduct" featured in the "woozy initial renderings" will disappear; it's also "a lot to pay for civic pride. But at least those who come to regret the cost will be able to do so in comfort."
- The inaugural Miller Prize names 5 winners to design "temporary installations at the site of five iconic architectural landmarks in Columbus, Indiana."
- More on the Schumacher / ZHA fracture: in a leaked, 560-word email (from his i-Phone!), he says the firm's disclaimer of his "incendiary comments" was unauthorized: "I am in good spirits trusting that my faux pas will be forgiven."
- NCARB signs an architectural licensing agreement with Australia and New Zealand, similar to those already set with Canada and Mexico.

- Lahey reports that the "trendy concept" of design thinking "is in high demand among educators," but it "seems likely to fail as an educational tool when communicated in terms of 'Five Simple Steps.'"
- A report on Open Architecture Collaborative setting new priorities in public interest design by developing mentorship and training programs.
- Call for entries: New York Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition.



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Alexandra Lange: What is Late Modernism? And why you should care: These buildings exhibit beefy bold shapes...sticking their sharp corners in our faces. More refined than Brutalism, less picturesque than Postmodernism...we would not have some of the city's most anticipated buildings of 2016, 2017, and beyond without Late Modernism. -- Hugh Stubbins; Gio Ponti; I.M. Pei; Cesar Pelli; Anthony Lumsden; SOM; Philip Johnson; John Burgee; Gordon Bunshaft; Paul Kennon/Jay Bauer/Caudill Rowlett Scott; Massimo and Lella Vignelli; Der Scutt; Roche Dinkeloo; BIG - Bjarke InglesGroup; Herzog & de Meuron; Jean Nouvel; OMA; Rafael Vinoly [images] - Curbed

Mimi Zeiger: Can Preservationists Save L.A.'s Late Modernist Landmarks From the Wrecking Ball? Some buildings that once were architectural harbingers of coming urban utopia now have to prove their relevance or risk being erased completely...but should all midcentury buildings be preserved? Rejected and outmoded, can late modernism find love? -- William L. Pereira; Charles Luckman; Pereira & Luckman; Paul Revere Williams; Welton Becket; Richard Neutra; Eames Office; John Lautner; A.C. Martin & Associates; Johnson Fain; Alan Hess; Pierluigi Serraino; Minoru Yamasaki [images] - LA Weekly

Richard Campanella: New Orleans' historical revival architecture: A look to the past for inspiration? Or solace? The rise and fall of the Rivergate Exhibition Hall mirrored how local sentiment reversed on Modernism...New Orleanians in the 1980s and 1990s were...enthusiastically preferring revived historical "retro" styles...For a city that for centuries had eagerly ingested the latest thinking in architecture, nostalgia-driven design was something new. Where did it come from? -- Curtis and Davis Architects (1968); Charles Moore - The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

How Trump should spend \$1 trillion on America's infrastructure, according to architects and urban planners: "We need a long-term plan that's not 'Let's spend \$1 trillion as quickly as possible...but make sure the plan is thoughtful, regardless of party.'" -- Quilian Riano/DSGN AGNC; Kathryn J. Madden/Madden Planning Group; Damaris Hollingsworth/DLR Group; Jeffrey Roberts/SERA Architects; Margaret Castillo/NYC Department of Design and Construction; William J. Martin/WJM Architects Principal - Business Insider

Duo Dickinson: Is Architecture as Fractured as Our Politics? Despite signs of an emerging pluralism, there is still a clearly defined separation between the Blue Academic Elite and Red Building Architects...for a growing number of younger professionals and media, the "Style Question" has lost its intensity in a time of professional, political and ecological anxiety...except in the mags, awards or schools. -- MASS Design Group; Lake/Flato Architects; Alejandro Aravena; Denise Scott Brown; Robert Venturi - Common Edge

Philip J. Bona: To tackle development issues, San Diego must become city of 'Great Villages': "Transit-Oriented Development" needs a makeover. The term has become toxic and evokes fear in neighborhoods where well-meaning planners seek to implement the concept. But TOD's holistic approach is in fact an elegant solution to the complex problem facing our region...San Diegans need to stop being NIMBYs and become YIMBYs. - San Diego Union-Tribune

Leon Krier: It doesn't matter if skyscrapers are designed by world-class architects or hacks - they're destroying our cities: I keep wondering how many otherwise intelligent persons can continue to negate the blatant evidence and instead do everything in their power to participate in the folly, to aggravate the situation...The idea that 400+ new high-rises will improve London is plain dumb and, in the long term, criminally so. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Janette Sadik-Khan: A Plea for Fifth Avenue: Traffic around Trump Tower is a mess, but there's a fix: Turn the street into a pedestrian plaza: ...from Central Park to the Empire State Building...This isn't just a feel-good experiment in civics, nor is it a public transit boondoggle...this transformation...may be that sweet spot where urbanism, transportation engineering, democracy and politics can align. - New York Times

Michael Kimmelman: The Lights Are On in Detroit: With 65,000 new streetlights, the city is sending a message: It's O.K. to come out after dark. Restaurants feel the glow, as do schoolchildren...an example of how one smart urban-design decision can have ripple effects...Like the streetlights, buses restore the fabric of the streets and re-establish a base line of normalcy. - New York Times

Marcus Fairs: UK architects will still be able to pitch for public work in Europe after Brexit, RIBA says: "Brexit should have no impact on UK architects in terms of winning work via OJEU"...may make it harder for continental firms to win work in the UK...Malcolm Reading...warned that this might mean that things are not as straightforward as the RIBA suggests. - Dezeen

Lib Dem peer to lead review into Brexit's impact on construction: Ex-building regulations minister Lord Stunell appointed to head up working group...said the construction sector needed to seize the chance to influence negotiations while it could. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Devin Leonard: George Lucas Can't Give His \$1.5 Billion Museum Away: What does the creator of "Star Wars" have to do to get a little gratitude? ...he's mounted a legacy project that's grand even by the standards of someone who thinks on a galactic scale...has offered to build his museum in a major American city for free...In Round 3, he is pitting San Francisco and Los Angeles against each other...[his] preference is probably San Francisco... --Ma Yansong/MAD Architects [images] - Bloomberg/BusinessWeek

Mark Lamster: [His] take on designs for the new Texas Rangers ballpark: The defining feature of the...woozy initial renderings is a monumental arcade - imagine a misplaced and overgrown Roman aqueduct...Hopefully this feature will disappear...though a "retro" design seems inevitable...For Arlington, it's a lot to pay for civic pride. But at least those who come to regret the cost will be able to do so in comfort. -- HKS [images] - Dallas Morning News

5 Miller Prize architectural winners picked: ...to design and build temporary installations at the site of five iconic architectural landmarks in Columbus, Indiana...part of a new, annual exploration of architecture, art, design and community known as Exhibit Columbus. -- Studio:indigenous; IKD; Oylar Wu Collaborative; Plan B Architecture & Urbanism; Aranda\Lasch [images]- The Republic (Columbus, Indiana)

LEAKED: Extraordinary Schumacher email reveals ZHA fracture: An open letter from Zaha Hadid Architects distancing itself from incendiary comments made by Patrik Schumacher on social housing was immediately challenged...[he] told staff the letter was unauthorised...[in a] 560-word email..."I am in good spirits trusting that my faux pas will be forgiven...Hey, shit happens ... and lessons are learned!" - The Architects' Journal (UK)

NCARB Announces Architectural Licensing Agreement with Australia and New Zealand: The new Mutual Recognition Arrangement will enable NCARB members to earn reciprocal licensing in the two nations. -- Architects Accreditation Council of Australia; New Zealand Registered Architects Board-Architect Magazine

Jessica Lahey: What Kids Can Learn From Urban Planning: The trendy concept is in high demand among educators, but its specifics are vague: "I think I missed something. I still don't understand what design thinking is. Do you?" ...design thinking seems likely to fail as an educational tool when communicated in terms of "Five Simple Steps." - The Atlantic

Open Architecture Collaborative's New Priorities in Public Interest Design: The non-profit group looks to develop mentorship and training programs as the path forward for local design advocacy...formerly Architecture for Humanity..."It's a pretty big culture shift"... -- Garrett Jacobs; Anne-Maria Lubenau - Architect Magazine

Call for entries: New York Affordable Housing Challenge International Architecture Competition: concepts that can be easily rolled out and are minimal in use of land and materials; cash prizes + New York Build exhibition in March; early bird registration deadline (save money!): January 18 (submissions due February 23)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

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Today's News - Thursday, January 12, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for late posting - the Internet gods seemed to have abandoned us so they could play outside on this oddly warm winter day. And please note: tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days. We'll be back Tuesday, January 17.

- Hawthorne weighs in on George Lucas selecting L.A. over S.F. for his museum and what it says about the city: "it's a city that builds first and asks questions later," and "has more to do with the shifting trajectory of development and investment than about L.A.'s hospitality to adventurous architecture."
- Things are not looking so rosy for Heatherwick's Garden Bridge as the "charity behind it admits it has no idea how much the final bill will be," and "admitted that it cannot be considered a going concern because there are too many risks associated with the scheme."
- Park outlines what needs to be done to win over the NIMBY's re: Green Belt developments: "Ministers should be instilling confidence that new garden towns and villages epitomize what well-designed, sustainable living environments should look like. Perhaps it's right to be a NIMBY until they do."
- It's back to the drawing board for Siza and Domingo Santos after public outcry and ICOMOS slams their winning design for a new entry and visitor center for the Alhambra it.
- On brighter notes: Giovannini cheers H&deM's Elbphilharmonie: it's "like a Fabergé Egg with a wondrous secret inside - a landscape in a box."
- Moore: celebrates the Pompidou Centre on eve of its 40th anniversary as Rogers and Piano "recall the sheer joy and bravado - and the struggle - of creating it."
- St Hill takes a deep dive into WilkinsonEyre's 20-year relationship the Dyson Campus and its latest expansion that includes mirrored walls that "makes the buildings seem smaller than they really are, as well as frustrating would-be prying eyes."
- Davidson digs WXY's transformation of NYC's Astor Place "with a combination of modesty and flair. This is distinguished, if self-effacing, public design."
- Green cheers a "smart" new streetscape for Kendall Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that is "as innovative as anything created by the techies who work along the street."
- Waite weighs in on what Schumacher's e-mail tells us about the future of Zaha Hadid Architects: the "leaks are doing nothing to assure those on the outside that there is unity and a steady hand on the tiller."
- Keskeys offers a great Q&A with Schumacher re: his most recent controversies and his use of social media: "I stand by what I've been saying," but "to avoid a similar PR disaster I will certainly have to be more circumspect in the future" - and what he's looking for as an A+Awards juror.
- Stead is quite taken with a New Yorker cartoon: "Sometimes you encounter a thing that is not 'properly' architectural, but which yet has something profound to say about the discipline."
- The Curry Stone Design Prizes announces the Social Design Circle of 100 winners for 2017, and the launch of Social Design Insights podcast series that begins with the question: Should Designers be Outlaws?
- Bird offers a thoughtful history of Winnipeg's Warming Huts competition, and finds this year's winners to be "jewels of invention, humor or drama" that "range from the humorous to the haunting" (a Kapoor included!).
- And Torontonians will soon be able to warm up in Winter Stations on their own beaches as lifeguard stations are transformed into "a take on Japanese hot springs, modern lighthouses and suspended trees" - and much more.
- Call for entries deadline reminder: 2017 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers: "Support."
- Weekend diversions:

- Donoff cheers "Loop," an installation lighting up Montreal's Place des Festivals with "13 giant zoetropes, or wheels, outfitted with 24 images to tell a different fairy tale" (very cool!).
- Crager gives two thumbs-ups to Goldin and Lubell's "Never Built New York": "an erudite, well researched trove of glorious failures, grandiose coulda-shouldas, and outrageous why-nots" - but "without those architects who have the vision and audacity to think big, where would we be?"
- Vidler says he has "yet to come across the equal to this investigation of the recent past and the potential future" as can be found in Berkel and Bos's "Knowledge Matters: Eleven Tools to Reorient and Expand the Architectural Profession."
- Hall Kaplan x 2: his pick of "some positive planning books for the tough Trump years ahead" + Cheers for Buckner's richly illustrated "The Lyman House and the Works of Frederick P. Lyman."

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Christopher Hawthorne: What does building George Lucas' museum at Exposition Park say about L.A.? ...choosing that site over a competing one on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay, the balance in [the park] has tipped once more from open space toward architecture, from protecting to building...it's a city...that builds first and asks questions later...has more to do with the shifting trajectory of development and investment than about L.A.'s hospitality to adventurous architecture. -- Ma Yansong/MAD Architects [images] - Los Angeles Times

Garden Bridge to ask for public's help to plug funding gap ... as charity behind it admits it has no idea how much the final bill will be: ...has already risen £10 million in cost to £185 million...admitted that the charity cannot be considered a going concern because there are too many risks associated with the scheme...price for the project was originally estimated at £60 million...[and] expected to be completed this spring. -- Thomas Heatherwick - BD/Building Design (UK)

The Green Belt: We need to be convinced that the end will justify the means: ...Julia Park/Levitt Bernstein sets out what new developments need to win over the Nimby's: Ministers should be instilling confidence and insisting that these new garden towns and villages epitomise what well-designed, sustainable living environments should look like...Perhaps it's right to be a Nimby until they do.- BD/Building Design (UK)

Dust-Up in Granada, Spain, Over Building Plans for the Alhambra: ...a new entry and visitor center...competition-winning design by Álvaro Siza and Juan Domingo Santos will be completely revised after receiving a negative report from the International Council on Monuments and Sites...slams the addition as overscaled...public outcry compelled the project's administrators to cooperate with a full ICOMOS review...[the architects] have been asked to remain as designers... - Architectural Record

Joseph Giovannini: The Elbphilharmonie, Like a Fabergé Egg With a Wondrous Secret Inside: Hamburg's new concert hall, wrapped by a hotel and condominium complex, heightens the sense of a roiling interior prize: ...its shell holds an unexpected world inside, a landscape in a box... -- Herzog & de Meuron - New York Times

Rowan Moore: Pompidou Centre: a 70s French radical that's never gone out of fashion: ...designed in the 1970s by two young unknowns - Richard Rogers and

Renzo Piano. On the eve of its 40th birthday, they recall the sheer joy and bravado - and the struggle - of creating it: "Putting this spaceship in the middle of Paris was a bit mad...was brave but also a bit impolite"...remains successful...It's partly the energy, joy and bravado palpable in its construction...At the same time, it's a building with flaws and contradictions...
[images] - Observer (UK)

Cate St Hill: Dyson Campus by WilkinsonEyre: Building on a 20-year relationship...[the firm] has completed a £250m expansion of the campus...which it first designed in 1996. The centrepiece is a mirrored glass box designed to conceal the brand's most top-secret innovations...make the buildings seem smaller than they really are, as well as frustrating would-be prying eyes.
[images] - DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Justin Davidson: Behold the Next New Astor Place: It survived riots and punks. How about low-key plazas and cute NYU kids? Few open areas of the city have changed identity as regularly...In this amnesiac corner of a nostalgic city, memory is preserved in architectural artifacts...with a combination of modesty and flair...This is distinguished, if self-effacing, public design. -- WXY architecture + urban design; Fumihiko Maki; Charles Gwathmey; Thom Mayne; Piet Oudolf [images] - New York Magazine

Jared Green: A Smart Streetscape for a High-Tech Corridor: Kendall Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is the center of technological innovation on the East Coast. But you would have never known it walking the broken-down, dated, 1980s-era brick streets...an inventive solution [with standard materials]...coming up with something entirely new. The results are as innovative as anything created by the techies who work along the street. -- Klopfer Martin Design Group; HDR [images] - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Richard Waite: "Shit happens": what Patrik Schumacher's email tells us about Zaha Hadid Architects: ...[he] claimed: "I am as much an author of the works of the practice as she is"...If before he had confined himself to parametricism and design theory...now he was airing polemics...email leaks are doing nothing to assure those on the outside that there is unity...and a steady hand on the tiller. It is unknown...whether Hadid herself had drawn up a clear succession plan. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Paul Keskeys: Fighting Talk: Patrik Schumacher on Fierce Debates, Facebook...Q&A re: his most recent debates with the profession and the public at large, his use of social media as a vehicle for architectural discourse and the future vision for Zaha Hadid Architects: "I stand by what I've been saying, but I won't say it again for now...to avoid a similar PR disaster I will certainly have to be more circumspect in the future." - Architizer

Naomi Stead: Within and Without Architecture: The imaginative possibilities of miniature things lie not in their being shrunken versions of a larger thing. The world of the miniature opens to reveal a secret life: Sometimes you encounter a thing that is not "properly" architectural, but which yet has something profound to say about the discipline...The object at hand is a cartoon. - Places Journal

Curry Stone Design Prizes Announces the Social Design Circle: 100 Winners for 2017: ...has also launched a new podcast [airs every Thursday]: Social Design

Insights will feature conversations with Teddy Cruz & Fonna Forman, Santiago Cirugeda (Recetas Urbanas), Arquitectura Expandida, Mark Lakeman (City Repair Project), in January, reflecting on the question: Should Designers be Outlaws? - Curry Stone Design Prize

Lawrence Bird/Ager Little Architects: Winnipeg Warmth: ...shelters transform Winnipeg's rivertop skating trail into an ever-growing treasure trove of contemporary art: Warming Huts...shelters along the Assiniboine and Red Rivers, each one a jewel of invention, humour or drama....2017 winners range from the humorous to the haunting. -- The Forks; Peter Hargraves/Sputnik Architecture; Team 888: site design group/SMP Group Design Associates; Lisa Tondino/Alexandra Bolen/Mathew Rodrigues/Drew Klassen; Joyce de Grauw/Paul van den Berg/Atelier ARI; Anish Kapoor; Sean Kohli [images]- Canadian Architect

Winter Stations 2017 design winners announced: You'll soon be able to warm up on Toronto's beaches with lifeguard stations being transformed into public art installations...include a take on Japanese hot springs, modern lighthouses and suspended trees...Five winning designs...from all over the world. Three more...from students at the University of Toronto, University of Waterloo and Humber College. -- Asuka Kono/Rachel Salmela; studio PERCH; Mario García/Andrea Govi; Dionisios Vriniotis/Rob Shostak/Dakota Wares-Tani; Julie Forand; Joao Araujo Sousa/Joanna Correia Silva [images]- CBC news (Canada)

Call for entries deadline reminder: 2017 Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers: "Support": today's architecture demands a reconsideration of support. What does support stand for? What props up architecture today? open to full-time residents, who need not be citizens, of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico; cash prizes; deadline: February 13- Architectural League of New York

Elizabeth Donoff: "Loop" Installation Lights up Montreal's Place des Festivals: ...part of Luminothérapie winter celebrations...in the...Quartier des Spectacles...each of the 13 giant zoetropes, or wheels, is outfitted with 24 images to tell a different fairy tale...on view through January 29. -- Oliver Girouard; Jonathan Villeneuve; Ottoblix [images]- Architectural Lighting magazine

Jack Crager: "Never Built New York": Grand Architectural Visions, Dashed Dreams, and Good, Old-Fashioned Hubris: ...[by] Sam Lubell and Greg Goldin...an erudite, well researched trove of glorious failures, grandiose coulda-shouldas, and outrageous why-nots...also reveals how failed ideas beget improved ideas - and without those architects who have the vision and audacity to think big, where would we be? [images]- Common Edge

Anthony Vidler: "Knowledge Matters: Eleven Tools to Reorient and Expand the Architectural Profession": UNStudio founders Ben van Berkel and Caroline Bos explore the architect's changing role...a primer for any office concerned with controlling the parametric with acuity and architectural force...I have yet to come across the equal to this investigation of the recent past and the potential future... - Architectural Record

Sam Hall Kaplan: Some Positive Planning Books for the Tough Trump Years Ahead: ...employing a host of innovative planning and development

programs...remind us of their inherent good will. Kevin Lynch's "The Image of the City"; William H. Whyte's "The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces"; Jan Gehl's "Life Between the Buildings"; Alexander Garvin's "What Makes a Great City"; etc. - City Observed

Sam Hall Kaplan: Frederic Lyman's Malibu Masterpiece: ...architect Cory Buckner's richly illustrated book... "The Lyman House and the Works of Frederick P. Lyman" is an estimable testament to a talented but relatively unheralded architect...he was never what you might call today, a star architect, a big name with a big ego...the bastardized house mercifully was destroyed in the Las Flores fire of 1993. Perhaps there is such a thing as architectural karma. - City Observed

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Today's News - Tuesday, January 17, 2017

- A particularly Trumpian way to start Inauguration week: "Design as Protest" Day on January 20 will include workshops around the country - a "national brainstorming session for creative, place-based interventions that drive social change."
- Hagberg Fisher offers "a primer on post-election design activism" to move "forward in an uneasy age."
- Kamin "deconstructs" Trump Tower in Chicago, and "muses" on what it portends for his presidency: "Don't try to tell him what to do. Don't count on him to follow through on his promises."
- Hawthorne explains why he's launching a weekly column on architecture: "Los Angeles is rediscovering its sense of civic ambition even as Trump seems ready to turn the country inward."
- Architects deconstruct Trump's \$25 billion wall along the Mexico-U.S. border, and why it "would be nearly impossible to build - there are better alternatives than constructing a wall."
- Grabar parses Ben Carson's confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill: he "revealed he's barely interested in the mission of the department he's about to run," even though his written remarks "were full of insight and expertise. But it turned out most of the text had been copied from newspaper articles and think-tank reports" (plagiarism runs in the family?).
- Perhaps Carson should look into Lyndon Goode Architects' infill housing development in south London: it demonstrates "how high-quality design and a successful planning outcome could be achieved on an affordable housing budget."
- Bernstein reports on new renderings of Gehry/AECOM's revised Eisenhower Memorial, now that supporters and critics have "reached a compromise."
- The AIA polled American adults about whether they consider public buildings to be "part of their community's infrastructure. Their answer was an emphatic 'yes.'"
- Baillieu explains why the architectural profession needs skilled communicators to help to "make itself heard"; the problem: "the conversation has turned inwards - architects talking to other architects - sometimes with disastrous results."
- LaValley lays out "13 reasons why an architect's voice is their most important tool."
- Mark's Q&A with Bowles and Bramwell of Mole Architects re: "playing second fiddle to someone else" as an executive architect - they found the up-side.
- Bozickovic x 2: He cheers RDHA's new Waterdown Library and Civic Centre in Hamilton, Canada: it "brings together an elegant metaphor and accessibility with a sense of place" ("Plus you can find books here").
- He reports on Mayne's move to give Toronto another landmark with an expansion of OCAD University's "box on stilts" (by Alsop).
- "Move over London - Manchester is on the rise" with OMA's Factory, a "massive glass cube" that will transform "an underused area into a world-class center for arts and culture."
- A peek at Hadid's will that "will shed fresh light on her intentions about succession" - and what's to become of her £70 million fortune.
- CTBUH releases its 2016 Tall Building Year in Review: it was a big year for tall buildings.
- An international array of winners take home the 2017 AIA Institute Honor Awards (great presentations).

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Architects Mark Inauguration With "Design as Protest" Day: As Trump is sworn in as president on Jan. 20...join...in turning online conversations about social justice and design into live, local actions...workshops in cities around the country...Envisioned as a sort of national brainstorming session for creative, place-based interventions that drive social change... -- Bryan Lee/Arts Council of New Orleans; Angela King/University of Illinois- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Eva Hagberg Fisher: Remaining Hopeful When Stormclouds Gather: A Primer on Post-Election Design Activism: Some strategies on moving forward in an uneasy age: ...I read Rebecca Solnit's book "Hope in the Dark"...essays about how to have hope when times seem horrible...about the tiny changes that add to something bigger and greater than we could ever have imagined. - Common Edge

Blair Kamin: Trump Tower in Chicago, and What It Could Mean for the Donald's Presidency: With Donald Trump taking office Friday, your humble critic deconstructs the president-elect's tallest skyscraper...and muses on what it means for his upcoming presidency...Don't try to tell him what to do...He has a compulsive need to leave his mark...Don't count on him to follow through on his promises. - Chicago Tribune

Christopher Hawthorne: "Building Type": A Weekly Column on Architecture: Los Angeles is in the midst of its biggest construction boom in decades...has provoked a backlash that...looks a lot like an existential crisis...an expression of mourning for an L.A. that is already dead...Los Angeles is rediscovering its sense of civic ambition even as Trump seems ready to turn the country inward and exploit, if not provoke, tensions with foreign powers. - Los Angeles Times

Trump's \$25 billion wall would be nearly impossible to build, according to architects: The cost will be huge...The wall challenges the ethics of architecture...would pose construction challenges...there are better alternatives than constructing a wall. -- Rosa Sheng/Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; William J. Martin; Estudio 3.14; Jones Studio- Business Insider

Advice For Ben Carson: How To Not Make America's Housing Crisis Worse: Architects and housing advocates have a few tips for the former neurosurgeon who's expected to take over the government's \$47 billion housing agency: "My last piece of advice: Try not to get indicted." -- Vishaan Chakrabarti/PAU; Martin C. Pedersen/Common Edge; Peter Gluck/Gluck+; Claire Weisz/Adam Lubinsky/WXY architecture + urban design; Karen Kubey; James Timberlake/KieranTimberlake- Fast Company / Co.Design

Henry Grabar: The Anything-but-Housing Secretary: On Capitol Hill, Ben Carson revealed he's barely interested in the mission of the department he's about to run: ...what stood out...was how fundamentally uninterested [he] seemed to be in the role that housing...plays and has played in American life...His official, written remarks...were full of insight and expertise. But it turned out most of the text had been copied from newspaper articles and think-tank reports. - Slate

Lyndon Goode Architects gets go-ahead for new Peabody homes: ...secures second infill housing development for affordable provider...new buildings will occupy the now-cleared sites of former garages but keep the leafy, low-density

character of the estate...[demonstrates] how high-quality design and a successful planning outcome could be achieved on an affordable housing budget. [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

Fred A. Bernstein: New Renderings Released of Frank Gehry and AECOM's Revised Eisenhower Memorial: Last fall, supporters and critics...reached a compromise...The memorial's key element, a 440-foot-long woven-metal tapestry, remains. But the subject...is now an aerial view of Normandy...other changes include relocating a statue of young Ike... [images] - Architectural Record

Are public buildings considered infrastructure? A survey...by The Harris Poll on behalf of AIA, asked 2,108 U.S. adults if they considered public buildings part of their community's infrastructure: Their answer was an emphatic "yes." 83% percent...consider public buildings "infrastructure"...82% agree that public buildings are as important as transportation in defining community infrastructure. - Building Design + Construction (BD+C)

Amanda Baillieu: Wanted: skilled communicators to help the architectural profession make itself heard: [It] has some catching up to do: Technical or practical flair is still the most prized possession. But the effect of this is that architecture struggles to produce charismatic communicators...Instead, the conversation has turned inwards - architects talking to other architects - sometimes with disastrous results. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Michael LaValley: 13 Reasons Why an Architect's Voice Is Their Most Important Tool: Architects have the opportunity to tell their story through their design and through the ways they choose to interact with the world...It's not the T square or the pencil, the drafting table or even the computer. - Architizer

"Executive architects are seen as playing second fiddle to someone else": Laura Mark speaks to Meredith Bowles and Ian Bramwell of Mole Architects about being executive architects on some of the UK's most anticipated schemes, including Peter Salters' Walmer Yard and Peter Zumthor's project for Living Architecture. -- Alain de Botton; Winy Maas/MVRDV; Jarmund Vignos Architects - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Alex Bozickovic: Open books: The new Waterdown Library and Civic Centre in Hamilton is proof that libraries are the locus of creative building design in Canada: ...brings together an elegant metaphor and accessibility with a sense of place - and shows how excellent art can emerge from constraints. Plus you can find books here...There's no question that the building is both comfortable and beautiful. -- RDHA [images] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Alex Bozickovic: Toronto's OCAD University may boast another city landmark: Thom Mayne will be involved in the expansion, which could redefine the university's relationship with Toronto: a decade ago, OCAD University changed Toronto's streetscape with a box on stilts. Now, the school may be about to do it again. -- Will Alsop (2004); Morphosis; Teeple Architects - Globe and Mail (Canada)

OMA gets green light for their first major public building in the UK: Move over London - Manchester is on the rise as an arts and culture capital in the north of England: ...the massive glass cube construction will transform the underused area - the site of the former Granada Studios - into a world-class center for arts

and culture. -- Rem Koolhaas/Ellen van Loon/Office for Metropolitan Architecture [images] - Inhabitat

Zaha Hadid leaves £70 million fortune: ...business partner Patrik Schumacher is the only non-family beneficiary named in her will...the contents of the will shed fresh light on her intentions about succession at the global firm that bears her name...documents show that Hadid...had at the time of her death more than £3 million in debt, meaning the estate's net value is £67,249,458. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

The Results Are In: 2016 Is a Record-Breaking Year for Tall Buildings: ...the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) has announced that 2016 saw the completion of a record 128 buildings 200 meters or higher...surpasses the previous record of 114 completions set in 2015. Eighteen became the tallest in their city, country, or region, and 10 earned the designation of supertall, at 300 meters and above. - ArchDaily

2017 AIA Institute Honor Awards recognize excellence in architecture, interior architecture, and regional & urban design: ... 23 recipients throughout the world... -- Shigeru Ban Architects/CCY Architects; nARCHITECTS; lu + Bibliowicz Architects; Antenora Architects; SANAA/Handel Architects; Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects/Holabird & Root; Marvel Architects; Brooks + Scarpa; ZGF Architects; Toshiko Mori Architect; Knight Architecture; Gabellini Sheppard Associates/Montroy Andersen DeMarco; SmithGroupJJR; Payette/ Ayers Saint Gross; Aidlin Darling Design; IwamotoScott Architecture/Brereton Architects; designLAB architects/Austin Architects; Studio Gang; LMN Architects; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Sasaki Associates; Landing Studio [images] - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

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Today's News - Wednesday, January 18, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of the Exners' (stunning) 1970 Islev Church in Copenhagen that "contributed to the creation of a new Nordic church typology" (oh! that brickwork!).
- Dublin-based Grafton Architects' Shelley McNamara and Yvonne Farrell named curators of the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale; they plan to "expand on the social themes explored by" Aravena's 2016 Biennale.
- An open letter to Donald Trump, signed by more than 250 architects, addresses "climate change, a clean and competitive U.S. economy using renewable energy, and standing up against special interest money in politics" (good luck with that...).
- King, meanwhile, reconsiders Mayne's Federal Building in San Francisco: "Though Trump shows little inclination to move past the acrimonious campaign," the building "seeks to be inclusive" - and even with its own flaws, "the complex has a spirit of optimism."
- Speaking of government buildings, Bates Smart has designed a "light-filled" Australian Embassy in Washington, DC, replacing the building the firm designed in 1964.
- In Bean Town, there are "big, transit-oriented plans" to replace a gigantic and "much-maligned concrete garage."
- Budds explores green lessons learned from Africa's first LEED-certified hospital: "instead of imposing Western building practices and techniques, Perkins+Will looked for ways to design and build that were rooted in Accra, Ghana."
- Singapore-based architect Kuppusamy, who expertly navigates construction sites in his wheelchair, calls for Universal Design solutions that are not just "tacked on just as an afterthought."
- WAF's 2016 Building of the Year architect Konieczny talks about how he won the award by creating the National Museum and Dialogue Centre Przelomy "that doubles as a 'city-forming' public space for the people of Szczecin, Poland."
- A decidedly unwelcome post-occupancy report: Nouvel's Torre Agbar skyscraper in Barcelona "has been sold for the second time in just three years" - its "impracticality" is driving tenants out (ouch!).
- On a brighter note, Roche and Dinkeloo's Ambassador Grill disco-era interior is (finally!) an official NYC Landmark (coolio! 'er, groovy!).
- A look at how some Australian firms ("the canaries in the construction coalmine") are retooling to keep up with economic changes (on the dark side: "The golden goose is dead and everybody is dying in the ditch" - yikes!).
- Pedersen pens the history of "the rise and fall" of NYC's Municipal Art Society: "the group's proximity to power has, it seems to me, almost fatally compromised it."
- Willis lays out four steps that could make architecture awards matter to more than just architects: "Third: ensure that awards serve more than just old white men in dark-rimmed glasses."
- Eyefuls of the winning designs for 8 pop-up "glamping" cabins to "be built in three secret locations" around Wales.
- Eyefuls of the student teams' winning designs in Van Alen Institute/AECOM's Urban SOS: Fair Share competition.
- Students hailing from China, Russia, U.K., and Lebanon win the 2016 Fentress Global Challenge to envision "The Airport of the Future."
- Manaugh, meanwhile, gets a deep de-briefing re: LAX's new anti-terrorism intelligence unit - "other airports are watching."
- The Hyperloop One Global Challenge results in 35 finalists, with the goal to be "Amazon Prime on steroids."

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This week at ARCspace

Inger and Johannes Exner: Islev Church (1970), Copenhagen, Denmark: [The Exner's] were prolific Danish architects throughout the second half of the 20th century...Islev church...is one of their most influential projects...contributed to the creation of a new Nordic church typology. By Benjamin Wells [images]

Grafton Architects' Shelley McNamara and Yvonne Farrell will curate 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale: The duo - who have just claimed the inaugural RIBA International Prize for the UTEC University campus in Lima, Peru - will expand on the social themes explored by Chilean architect Alejandro Aravena at the 2016 Biennale, focusing on how architecture can be used as a tool of civil society. - CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

Dear Mr. President: Over 250 architects sign open letter to Donald Trump: ...focuses on three specific actions addressing climate change, a clean and competitive U.S. economy using renewable energy, and standing up against special interest money in politics. - The Architect's Newspaper

John King: What brash Federal Building says about government's larger role: Though Trump shows little inclination to move past the acrimonious campaign...the building...seeks to be inclusive...Does [it] have its own flaws? Absolutely...In a larger sense, though, the complex has a spirit of optimism. An emotion that should be at the core of America's identity... -- Thom Mayne/Morphosis [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

Bates Smart unveils light-filled replacement for its Australian Embassy in Washington, DC: ...replacing the building that the firm designed for the same purpose in 1964...the existing building's condition was deteriorating...The Australian government initially considered repairing the structure, but eventually ran a competition to design a replacement. -- KCCT [images] - Dezeen

A Better Bean Town: A five-acre redevelopment of Boston's Bulfinch Triangle will replace a much-maligned concrete garage: ...big, transit-oriented plans for the site. De-emphasizing the automobile, the \$1.5 billion "Bulfinch Crossing" master plan involves the creation of a new public square and pedestrian promenade... -- CBT Architects; Pelli Clarke Pelli [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

Diana Budds: Lessons In Green Building From Africa's First LEED-Certified Hospital: "We're able to prove that sustainability doesn't take high-tech solutions," says architect Pat Bosch: ...instead of imposing Western building practices and techniques...Perkins+Will looked for ways to design and build that

were rooted in Accra [Ghana]...the real lesson...is more about what the West can learn. [images]- Fast Company / Co.Design

Universal design should leave nobody out, says disabled architect: Richard Kuppusamy cuts an unusual sight in busy construction sites when he navigates expertly...in his wheelchair...while he noted that Singapore has made big strides in improving accessibility, he urged for more to be done...and for solutions not to be tacked on just as an afterthought. -- WOHA Architects- TODAYonline (Singapore)

Building of the Year architect talks about form, function and why public space is vital: Robert Konieczny...of Polish architecture studio KWK Promes, has described how he won the World Architecture Festival's 2016 Building of the Year prize by creating a museum [National Museum and Dialogue Centre Przelomy] that doubles as a "city-forming" public space for the people of Szczecin, Poland. [images]- CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

Impracticality drives tenants out of Jean Nouvel's Barcelona skyscraper: [His] Torre Agbar skyscraper has been sold for the second time in just three years, as it struggles to hold onto tenants...both of its past occupants have described the building as impractical. - Dezeen

UN Plaza Hotel's postmodern Ambassador Grill interiors become a NYC landmark: The Landmarks Preservation Commission voted unanimously to preserve the disco-era rooms...will become New York City's 118th interior landmark. -- Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo & Associates (1975, 1983) [images]- Curbed New York

Design firms retool to keep up as economies change in Australia, overseas: After a buoyant few years that have seen firms rebuild staffing numbers, the changing market...is forcing design companies - the canaries in the construction coalmine - to retool as they adjust to clients' changing expectations. - Australian Financial Review

Martin C. Pedersen: The Rise and Fall of New York's Municipal Art Society: How a once great civic organization was co-opted by the very forces it was supposed to watch: ...the group's proximity to power has, it seems to me, almost fatally compromised it. -- Gina Pollara; Elizabeth Goldstein- Common Edge

Ben Willis: Do architecture awards matter? ...here's how they could: ...could they do something to matter more? What could we do? First...Second...Third: ensure that awards serve more than just old white men in dark-rimmed glasses...it's worth asking whether prizes affect our relevancy with the those working outside the world of design...what's the role of our awards to the public? -- Union Studio Architecture & Community Design- Common Edge

Australians design pop-up glamping cabin in Wales: 8 cabins will be built in three secret locations throughout the country...Epic Retreats...part of the Welsh government's "Year of Legends 2017" tourism campaign...designs inspired by Wales's history and folklore. -- George & Tomos Architects; TRIAS; Miller Kendrick Architects; Timber Design Wales; Barton Willmore; Waind Gohil & Potter Architects; Francis & Arnett; Rural Office for Architecture; How About Studios [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Urban SOS: Fair Share Competition Winners: ...challenged multidisciplinary student teams around the world to explore the nexus of the sharing economy and urban infrastructure to solve our cities' most urgent issues. "First Class Meal," Los Angeles; En Comúna, Quito, Ecuador; WELP, Durban, South Africa; The Living City, Athens, Greece. [images]- Van Alen Institute /AECOM / 100 Resilient Cities

Winners Announced for 2016 Fentress Global Challenge: Annual competition recognizes innovation in airport design around the world: ...challenge was to envision "The Airport of the Future"...drew students from over 50 countries...three winning proposals reflect bold conceptual thinking... [images]- Fentress Architects

Geoff Manaugh: Inside LAX's New Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Unit: If the airport's experimental team succeeds, every critical infrastructure site in the world might soon have its own in-house intel operation: ...the LAX model...working with classified intelligence material, has already become an objective elsewhere. Other airports are watching. -- Anthony McGinty; Michelle Sosa - The Atlantic

Hyperloop One Wants to Be "Amazon Prime on Steroids," but Where? Just think of it as "broadband for transportation": ...35 teams from regions all over the world were announced...as finalists in the "Hyperloop One Global Challenge"...The open competition...attracted 2,600 teams of engineers and urban planners who pitched their region as the ideal spot... - Inverse

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Today's News - Thursday, January 19, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days; we'll be back Tuesday, January 24 (and note the bunches of calls for entries today!).

- Bozиковic talks to some Canadian women architects who are "at the top of their game about opportunities for growth in the profession" - and the many challenges they still face.
- Phillips takes a broad view of "gender diversity in Canada's architecture profession": Canada may be "ahead of both the U.S. and the U.K. - but there are still significant problems."
- Darnstadt explains how her "Plan B" to "to become a social impact designer without going broke" resulted in the success of Latent Design.
- A great Q&A with Eskandari re: how she weaves her Islamic faith with her practice: she "views her practice as an extension of her faith - which means, basically, to make 'good architecture' for the 99%."
- The fascinating saga of how Shim-Sutcliffe's (beautiful!) Taoist temple near Toronto took the high road in dealing with "Markham's real religion: parking" and "ferocious NIMBYism."
- Speaking of sacred spaces, Crosbie parses the Oval Office: "while it lacks old age, it possesses the aura of a sacred spot" (at least until tomorrow...sigh).
- Sheridan parses the evolution of modern architecture, engineering, and design firms in dealing with challenges of technology, attracting talent, and succession-planning.
- An amusing "then vs. now" re: being an architect: "1. Drawing vs. Software; 4. A Lot of Old White Men vs. Slightly Less Old White Men"; etc.
- Lang offers a fascinating take on the history of London's council architects and their departments that "fostered an aspiration, ingenuity and innovation - and can do so again."
- Eyefuls of the 5 finalists vying to design the new Shepparton Art Museum (they couldn't be more different!).
- Call for entries (bunches and bunches!): Bamboo Bamboo Landmark Design Challenge + University of Hawai'i's "Make the Ala Wai Watershed Awesome" Student Design Challenge + 10th Dedalo Minosse International Prize honoring the client's role + World Habitat Awards 2017/18 + 2017 Radical Innovation Awards for inventive hospitality concepts + Applications for Be Original Americas' 7-week Summer Design Fellowship program.
- Weekend diversions:
 - The documentary "Desert Maverick: The Singular Architecture of William F. Cody" beautifully illustrates his work as "unique among other modernist architects."
 - Snarkitecture's giant 1.1 million ball pit "The Beach" now stars at the Sydney Festival.
 - "The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley" road show lands at The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design in Richmond, VA.
 - "Nature and Cities" is "handsome and visually rich" with "big ideas and projects that showcase them. Sizable ambition certainly shines through."
 - Brussat cheers Locktov for achieving "the most evocative stroll along the skinniest of tightropes" in putting together "Dream of Venice Architecture."



Alex Bozickovic: Architecture is demanding for anyone, but women face added challenges. [He] asks designers at the top of their game about opportunities for growth in the profession: While Canadian architecture has some women among its leading lights...the profession remains overwhelmingly male. -- Vivian Manasc/Manasc Isaac; Patricia Patkau/Patkau Architects; Brigitte Shim/Shim-Sutcliffe; Heather Dubbeldam/Dubbeldam Architecture + Design; Megan Torza/DTAH; Camille Mitchell/KPMB [images] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Rhys Phillips: Because it's 2017: Gender Diversity in Canada's Architecture Profession: The state of diversity...has been under increasing scrutiny both inside and outside of Canada...[Data] suggests Canada is ahead of both the U.S. and the U.K., at least nationally. But there are still significant problems...There is a need for - and signs of - Despina Stratigakos' third wave of architecture feminism... - Canadian Architect magazine

How to Become a Social Impact Designer Without Going (Permanently) Broke: This 34-year-old Chicago architect is building a new kind of firm: Katherine Darnstadt's story provides a fascinating window into the business of social impact design and how young architects are shaping not only the cities they work in, but also the profession as whole...Her fledgling firm was no longer a "plan B"... -- Latent Design - Next City (formerly Next American City)

Maryam Eskandari on Weaving Together Her Islamic Faith with Architecture Practice: Principal of MIIM Designs and Adviser in History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University...[she] views her practice as an extension of her faith - which means, basically, to make "good architecture" for the 99%. [images] - Archinect

Practiced Poise: A Taoist temple [Wong Dai Sin Temple] on the edge of Toronto is delicately balanced atop two dramatically cantilevered platforms: ...organized religion had become a fly in the ointment of Markham's real religion: parking...the silent practice of tai chi became the target of ferocious NIMBYism....(" You're not a religion, you're a fitness club.")...taking the high road, the Fung Loy Kok people refused to drop the project. -- Shim-Sutcliffe Architects [images] - Canadian Architect magazine

Michael J. Crosbie: Is The Oval Office America's Most 'Sacred' Space? Thoughts about sacred space and finding it where one might least expect to occurred to me...when my family and I attended a "Departure Photo" event at the White House...My eyes fixed on little details...while it lacks old age, it possesses the aura of a sacred spot. A good part of this is due to its shape. - Huffington Post

Mike Sheridan: The Evolution of Modern Architecture, Engineering, and Design Firms: They face common challenges managing technology, attracting talent - and making the transition to a new generation of leadership..."the demographic changes are helping to drive some of these changes, both on the client and on the design team side." - Urban Land Magazine (ULI)

Being an Architect: Then Versus Now: Some changes are conscious...made as acts of disciplinary or professional progress; others changes are uncontrollable, arising from architecture's role in the wider world that is also changing. 1.

Drawing vs. Software; 2. Lone Genius vs. Teamwork; 4. A Lot of Old White Men vs. Slightly Less Old White Men; etc. - ArchDaily

Ruth Lang: In-house: the council architect: Far from being the arm which extended the dead hand of bureaucracy, council architects' departments fostered an aspiration, ingenuity and innovation which benefited UK architecture as a whole - and can do so again: And the way forward has the potential to be led from an unlikely corner, far from the limelight of the starchitects. -- John Bancroft; Bob Giles; Erich Mendelsohn; Arne Jacobsen; Colin Stansfield Smith; the Smithsons; Archigram; HKPA; Chloe Phelps [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Finalists' designs revealed for new Shepparton Art Museum. -- Denton Corker Marshall; John Wardle; Kerstin Thompson Architects; Lyons; MvS Architects [images] - ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Call for entries: Bamboo Bamboo Landmark Design Challenge: 7th Building Trust international design competition for an innovative pavilion made from bamboo to be the centre of a Bamboo Festival Building Trust are hosting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, this March; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): January 22; final registration: March 3 (submissions due March 17) - Building Trust International (UK)

Call for entries: University of Hawai'i's "Make the Ala Wai Awesome" Student Design Challenge: help advance the collective goals and action agenda of the Ala Wai Watershed Partnership (AWWP); cash prizes; registration deadline: January 31 (submissions due March 17) - University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program / Ala Wai Watershed Partnership

Call for entries: 10th Dedalo Minosse International Prize for commissioning a building 2016/2017: honouring the Client's role in the design process; no fee; deadline: February 17 - ALA - Assoarchitetti / Regione del Veneto

Call for entries: World Habitat Awards 2017/18: projects that provide practical and innovative solutions to current housing needs and problems; cash prizes; deadline: March 1 - Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) / UN-Habitat

Call for entries: 2017 Radical Innovation Awards: Rethink. Reimagine. Redefine. (international): submit hospitality concepts that provide new meaningful travel experiences, and new revenue growth opportunities for owners, investors, etc.; open to professionals and students; cash prizes; deadline: April 22 - The John Hardy Group / Global Allies / Sleeper magazine / Architizer

Call for entries: Applications for Be Original Americas' 7-week Summer Design Fellowship program, June 12 - August 1; open to students who have completed at least 2 years of study; travel and accommodation expenses, and a grant; deadline: February 28 - Be Original Americas

Documentary Film Highlights Overshadowed Architect: "Desert Maverick: The Singular Architecture of William F. Cody"...exemplifies that Cody's work was unique among other modernist architects, as his designs did not fall solely under one style; this is a possible reason for his lack of recognition... -- George Smart/Triangle Modernist Archive/North Carolina Modernist Houses - Technician

(N.C. State University)

Snarkitecture's giant beach-themed ball pit stars at Sydney Festival: have once again revived "The Beach," their popular installation involving an indoor seaside experience and an ocean of 1.1 million recyclable, antimicrobial plastic balls; at Barangaroo Reserve until 29 January... [images] - CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

"The Landscape Architecture Legacy of Dan Kiley": Explore the current state of more than two dozen works of one of the most influential modernist landscape architects of the 20th century; at The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design, Richmond, VA. -- The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) - The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design (Richmond, VA)

"Nature and Cities: The Ecological Imperative of Urban Planning" edited by Frederick Steiner, George Thompson, and Armando Carbonell: A collection of essays from both well-established and up-and-coming landscape architects with big ideas and projects that showcase them. The book is handsome and visually rich, and the essays are warmer than they are academic...Sizable ambition certainly shines through...Read the book. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

David Brussat: A dream book of Venice: In "Dream of Venice Architecture," each photo by Riccardo De Cal accompanies a brief essay...by a noted contemporary architect, designer, artist or historian...JoAnn Locktov has accomplished the most evocative stroll along the skinniest of tightropes. She has assembled a book of Venice that expresses reverence for a beauty that many of its authors fail, in very fundamental ways, to understand. [images] - Architecture Here and There

This week at ARCspace

Inger and Johannes Exner: Islev Church (1970), Copenhagen, Denmark: [The Exner's] were prolific Danish architects throughout the second half of the 20th century...Islev church...is one of their most influential projects...contributed to the creation of a new Nordic church typology. By Benjamin Wells [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, January 24, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us Dibbs's take on Marina Tabassum's mosque in Dhaka (a winner of the 2016 Aga Khan Award) that uses "unadorned materials and vernacular construction techniques to immense effect."
- Zacks pens an open letter to the AIA's Robert Ivy: "Don't resign: engage, resist and confront" the "threats posed by the incoming administration."
- Hosey explains why, "if ever there were a time for architects to lead the fight against climate change, it's now" (sign COTE's petition to the Senate re: the DOE and EPA!).
- Korody explains why Trump (possibly) eliminating the NEA and NEH - and privatizing PBS - matters for architecture.
- Hawthorne has a grand time at Saturday's women's march to Grand Park in L.A.; "Metro and Pershing Square, not so much."
- King reports on San Francisco's Bay Area: Resilient by Design Challenge - a \$5.8 million design competition for 10 projects "to lessen effects of sea level rise on SF Bay."
- McKay minces no words in considering when "context" became "a dirty word in architecture" - now, "the only context that matters is a building's contribution to the universal context of media churn - none of this requires the presence of actual buildings."
- Perhaps there will be some answers in Harvard GSD's upcoming - and free! - online architecture course, "The Architectural Imagination."
- Wainwright parses Grafton Architects' "modern-day Machu Picchu" in Peru - dubbed "the best new building in the world" by winning the RIBA International Prize; Farrell and McNamara "have equally big plans for Britain."
- Dalrymple has a very different take on Grafton's "modern Macchu Picchu: "it is unfortunately possible that it is 'the best new building in the world.' This, unfortunately, tells us more about the world than about the building."
- Moore cheers Womersley being rediscovered: He "was, quite simply, one of the best British architects of the 20th century," who combined "brutality and breezy optimism," and "brought a purist's beauty to small-town projects in the 60s and 70s."
- The 15th Driehaus Prize goes to Robert Adam; Ackerman is honored posthumously with the Henry Hope Reed Award; and CNU gets "a special award for contributions to the public realm."
- Brussat, not surprisingly, cheers Adam's Driehaus Prize, and parses his essay on skyscrapers that, "alone, deserves a Nobel."
- la Roi of Heatherwick Studio wins the competition to design a Belgian refugee monument in Amersfoort, The Netherlands.
- Tate Harmer's "big tent" wins the competition to design a museum and visitor center at the Scout Association's HQ in east London (now all it needs is some Heritage Lottery Funding).
- The Society of Architectural Historians' 2016 H. Allen Brooks Travelling Fellow is Nigerian architectural historian and photographer Adeyemi Akande, who will explore "the pinnacle of early Western religious architecture."
- A very longggg (and inspiring!) shortlist for the 2017 Knight Cities Challenge.
- Call for entries: Kaira Looro (Architecture for Peace) competition: Sacred Architecture in Tanaf, Senegal + RFQ: Nepean Point (Ottawa) Redevelopment International Design Competition + American Architecture Prize Firm of the Year 2017 Award.

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This week at ARCspace

Jason Dibbs: Marina Tabassum Architects: Baitur Rauf Jame Mosque, Dhaka, Bangladesh: ...utilizes simple, unadorned materials and vernacular construction techniques to immense effect, emphasizing the interplay of light and shadow, and creating a space for religious reverie and transcendence. [images]

Stephen Zacks: An Open Letter to AIA Executive Director Robert Ivy: Don't resign: engage, resist and confront: The demands could be limited to issues relevant to the AIA's mission and still be enormously effective leverage in relation to threats posed by the incoming administration...Will architects build anything billionaires throw money at, or will they realize their collective power as agents of change? - Common Edge

Lance Hosey: The "Radical Hope" of Architects: A new political climate demands a newly aggressive approach to sustainable design: AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) Advisory Group...created a petition to urge the Senate to be sure that the new directors of the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency will honor the science and consensus on climate change...could very well fall on deaf ears...If ever there were a time for architects to lead the fight against climate change, it's now. - Huffington Post

Nicholas Korody: Trump may eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts [and National Endowment for the Humanities] - here's why that matters for architecture: What kind of projects are supported by the NEA? AIA conferences...design competitions; architecture exhibitions...community workshops for design projects; neighborhood planning activities...socially-oriented design initiatives...and much, much more. - Archinect

Christopher Hawthorne: In L.A. march, Grand Park performs well with huge crowds; Metro and Pershing Square, not so much: The Los Angeles edition of Saturday's women's march was in that sense another sign of the city's continuing effort to redefine, or at least recalibrate, its public-ness. -- Ricardo Legorreta (1994); Agence Ter; SALT Landscape Architects - Los Angeles Times

John King: Lab explores projects to lessen effects of sea level rise on SF Bay: ...the aim of a \$5.8 million design competition being announced this week that will select 10 multidisciplinary teams and assign each a different bayside setting...Dubbed Bay Area: Resilient by Design Challenge.. -- Rockefeller Foundation; Rebuild by Design; 100 Resilient Cities - San Francisco Chronicle

Graham McKay: When Did "Context" Become a Dirty Word in Architecture? Playing well with your architectural neighbors was once an honorable tradition: Architects' abilities to satisfy local populations with loosely associative imagery were admired and rewarded...[now] the only context that matters...is a building's contribution to the universal context of media churn and its place in the

architect's oeuvre...none of this requires the presence of actual buildings. -- Charles Moore; Perez Architects.; Asnago & Vendor (1958); Gio Ponti; Giovanni Muzio & Pier Fausto Berelli (1922); Foster + Partners; Jialiang Gao [images]- Common Edge

Harvard GSD to offer (free) online architecture course, starting February 28: "The Architectural Imagination" will examine some of history's most important examples that show how architecture engages, mediates, and expresses a culture's complex aspirations. -- K. Michael Hays ; Erika Naginski; Antoine Picon - Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Oliver Wainwright: Inside Peru's modern-day Machu Picchu - is this the best new building in the world? The soaring buttresses and hanging walkways of UTEC [Universidad de Ingeniería y Tecnología] in Lima have earned it the RIBA International Prize. And Grafton Architects, the Irish team behind it, have equally big plans for Britain. -- Yvonne Farrell; Shelley McNamara [image]- Guardian (UK)

Theodore Dalrymple: A Modern Machu Picchu: As the awarding body was the RIBA, it was only to be expected that the building was a complete aesthetic mess, an eyesore...does not look half as bad as it will look after a few years...it is unfortunately possible that it is 'the best new building in the world.' This, unfortunately, tells us more about the world than about the building. -- Yvonne Farrell/Shelley McNamara/Grafton Architects - Salisbury Review (UK)

Rowan Moore: Peter Womersley: from Bauhaus to boiler house: Combining brutality and breezy optimism...[he] brought a purist's beauty to small-town projects in the 60s and 70s. Now his virtuosic talents are being rediscovered...[He] was, quite simply, one of the best British architects of the 20th century...His buildings are adventurous but poised; lucid, brave in conception and considered in their detail...but mostly they are creations of his own personal universe. [images]- Observer (UK)

Robert Adam named 15th Richard H. Driehaus Prize Laureate: James S. Ackerman posthumously presented the Henry Hope Reed Award: ...jury named Congress for the New Urbanism/CNU recipient of a special award for contributions to the public realm. - University of Notre Dame News (Indiana)

David Brussat: Driehaus Prize to Robert Adam: The prize earns its recipient...\$200,000, twice the amount of the Pritzker Prize, which only goes to modernist architects...The 18th century Robert Adam probably could not quite have matched the later Adam's erudition...for his essay on skyscrapers alone, he deserves a Nobel. -- Léon Krier; ADAM Architecture - Architecture Here and There

Heatherwick Studio architect wins Belgian refugee monument contest [in Amersfoort, The Netherlands]: Matthijs la Roi was chosen from a seven-strong shortlist..."Museum of Hospitality" concept will be constructed next to an existing First World War monument... [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

Tate Harmer's 'big tent' wins scouting museum contest: ...to design a museum and visitor centre at the Scout Association's (TSA) headquarters [in east London]: ...Scout Adventure Centre...scheme is dependent on the Scout Association winning Heritage Lottery Funding... [images]- The Architects' Journal

(UK)

Society of Architectural Historians Announces the 2016 H. Allen Brooks Travelling Fellow: ...architectural historian and photographer Adeyemi Akande...plans to focus his travels on areas that exhibit the pinnacle of early Western religious architecture...has taught architectural history at University of Lagos in Nigeria for three years...he has never seen many of the buildings he lectures on. - Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

144 finalists advance in 2017 Knight Cities Challenge: There is at least one finalist in each of the 26 Knight communities, along with several projects that would be put to work in multiple cities. [images] - Knight Foundation

Call for entries: Kaira Loro (Architecture for Peace) international architectural competition: Sacred Architecture in Tanaf, Senegal; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline (save money!): February 13 (submissions due April 23) - Associazione Balouo Salo

Call for entries: Request for Qualification/RFQ: Nepean Point Redevelopment International Design Competition: innovative and inspiring proposals to redevelop a spectacular lookout in Ottawa; teams must be led by a landscape architect...licensed to work in Ontario, Canada; Stage 1/RFQ deadline: March 31 - Nepean Point Redevelopment (Ottawa, Canada)

Call for entries: AAP Firm of the Year 2017 Award (international): American Architecture Prize honors the total body of work of small, medium, and large companies in their own categories based on firm size and area of expertise; earlybird deadline (save money!): February 28 (submissions due April 30) - American Architecture Prize (AAP)

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Today's News - Wednesday, January 25, 2017

- Let's get the "saddening/maddening" (h/t to Illya Azaroff) Trumpian news over with: A sobering look at what federal agencies and programs could see major cuts in Trump's "bulldozer budget" - many should be of major concern to the A/E/C industry.
- Gag orders placed on a number of agencies (EPA, HHS, etc.) banning employees from communicating with Congress, the press, and the public (tweeting included).
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "abruptly cancels" its long-planned Climate and Health Summit.
- An architect in Texas outlines how architecture could make the Mexican border "an economic driver instead of militarized wastelands - if we do it the right way."
- Kayden let's us end on a lighter note as he talks about the "checkered history" of Trump Tower's "little bench that could" that now serves "the public interest in ways never imagined."
- The revised concept of Gehry's Eisenhower Memorial in DC may have been approved, but faces more hurdles (National Civic Art Society's Shubow railed against the original design, but "said the original is superior" - go figure).
- Wainwright cheers technologies being developed to make urban planning more inclusive and less "complicated, time-consuming, and full of confusing jargon" (then there are the critics).
- Hawthorne ventures into L.A.'s Arts District Park: the neighborhood may be "thrilled," but it "gives the strong impression that it is not a fully public space."
- Saffron explains why Philly's "Great Rittenhouse Square No-Sitting Controversy is far from over," despite the mayor's "Sit where you want" tweet.
- A great round-up: "Borders: Stories about places on the edge."
- Gallagher cheers the news that the long-abandoned Albert Kahn-designed Free Press building in Detroit will be rescued and re-used (no mention of restoration architect).
- The American Academy in Rome names preservation engineer, architectural historian, and professor Ochsendorf as Director (we loved his Guastavino exhibition and monograph!).
- Eyefuls of the winning design "to re-imagine Mumbai's 'forgotten' Maharashtra Nature Park."
- Eyefuls of the Moontopia competition winners offering "visions for lunar architecture."
- The Arch League puts the spotlight on its Emerging Voices 2017 winners (great group!).
- Call for entries: Arch League's Deborah J. Norden Fund Travel and Study Grants + Deadline extended for Harvard GSD 2017 Wheelwright Prize + 2017 Buckminster Fuller Challenge + Speaker proposals for VERGE 2017 Conference and Expo on technology and sustainability.



CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Trump bans EPA employees from giving social media updates: ...banned employees of the Environmental Protection Agency from...speaking with reporters...other reports of agency staff being restricted from interacting with the members of the Congress or the general public...EPA grants had been frozen, with agency employees barred from speaking of the matter. - The Hill (Washington, DC)

CDC abruptly cancels long-planned conference on climate change and health: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention...Climate and Health Summit...scheduled for next month in Atlanta...intended as a chance for public health officials around the country to learn more about the mounting evidence of the risks to human health posed by the changing climate. - Washington Post

Fernando Luiz Lara/UT Austin: Use architecture to make border an economic driver: Instead of militarized wastelands, we could have proper parks, water-cleaning meadows...We should create community integration and economic opportunity for those sister cities...it would create a border of social and economic integration instead of wasting money on strategies of segregation that are doomed to fail...architecture can help in a big way, if we do it the right way. - San Angelo Standard-Times (Texas)

Jerold S. Kayden: At Trump Tower, the little bench that could: Improbably, a 22-foot-long, legally required public bench...has become a prime vantage point into a new political era...the quiet return last July...was a small win in an ongoing struggle to hold the private sector to its public commitments...Now, [it] is serving the public interest in ways never imagined... - Boston Globe

Eisenhower Tapestry Design Will Require Additional Approval: U.S. Commission of Fine Arts approved a revised concept for the Eisenhower Memorial in Washington, D.C., but...asked for additional details about the 400-foot steel tapestry before final approval: ...[and] concerns about the the image's clarity on the steel material, the new location for the young Eisenhower statue, and the removal of four trees from the park. -- Frank Gehry/Gehry Partners [images] - Architect Magazine

Oliver Wainwright: Tinder for cities: how tech is making urban planning more inclusive: Having a say in what your city or neighbourhood should be like is often complicated, time-consuming and full of confusing jargon. A new wave of digital tools are trying to make the process transparent and interactive...But the digitisation of these processes has its critics too. - Guardian (UK)

Christopher Hawthorne: Building Type: Long road to the Arts District's first park: Its no-frills name is Arts District Park...By all accounts, the neighborhood is thrilled...But in its details and big gestures alike, the park gives the strong impression that it is not a fully public space...Forgive my bluntness, but here's why those details and big gestures matter... -- John Friedman Alice Kimm Architects - Los Angeles Times

Inga Saffron: For Rittenhouse Square's beloved public space, worrying signs of exclusion: Thanks for the tweet, Mayor Kenney, but the Great Rittenhouse

Square No-Sitting Controversy is far from over..."Sit where you want"...was a crowd-pleaser, it addresses only the most superficial aspect of the larger problem: the city's increasing reliance on a private partner to manage and fund this most beloved and democratic of Philadelphia public spaces. - Philadelphia Inquirer

Borders: Stories about places on the edge: "When Borders Melt: An Italian project maps how climate change is now shifting the nation's boundaries" by Feargus O'Sullivan; "The Hidden Fences of August Wilson's Birthplace: The structures both define and devalue a fabled Pittsburgh neighborhood" by Brentin Mock; "When Invisible Borders Trump the Real Ones" by Richard Florida; etc. - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

John Gallagher: Bedrock to turn old Free Press building into offices, retail, residences: ...restoration project...rescues another Albert Kahn-designed classic from slow deterioration...also evokes nostalgic memories of past newspaper glory. The Free Press staff won eight Pulitzer prizes in the building... [images]- Detroit Free Press

The American Academy in Rome Names John Ochsendorf as Director: The structural engineer, preservationist, and MIT professor will begin his three-year appointment at the prestigious organization in July. -- Ochsendorf, DeJong and Block - Architect Magazine

Winners revealed in design competition to re-imagine Mumbai's 'forgotten' Maharashtra Nature Park: ...makeover...with new landscaping and a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Mithi River. -- Sameep Padora & Associates; Design Cell; Ratan J Batliboi Consultants [images]- CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

Nine visions for lunar architecture revealed in Moontopia competition: ...to draw up plans for a self-sufficient lunar colony for living, working, researching and space tourism. One winner and eight runners up were selected... [images]- Dezeen

Emerging Voices 2017: spotlights North American individuals and firms with distinct design "voices"... -- Brian Bell/David Yocum/BLDGS, Atlanta; Eduardo Cadaval/Clara Sola`-Morales/Cadaval & Sola`-Morales, Mexico City and Barcelona; Roy Decker/Anne Marie Duvall Decker/Duvall Decker Architects, Jackson, MS; Frida Escobedo, Taller de Arquitectura, Mexico City; Chris Leong/Dominic Leong/Leong Leong, New York City; Thomas F. Robinson/LEVER Architecture, Portland, OR; Jonathan Tate/OJT, New Orleans; David Scott/Susan Scott/Scott & Scott Architects, Vancouver [link to images, info]- Architectural League of New York

Call for entries: Call For Proposals: Deborah J. Norden Fund Travel and Study Grants: open to students and recent graduates; applicants must reside in, but need not be citizens of, the U.S., Canada, or Mexico; deadline: April 23- Architectural League of New York

Call for entries (deadline extended): Harvard GSD 2017 Wheelwright Prize: International competition for early-career architects to win \$100,000 traveling fellowship; deadline now: February 3- Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) / Wheelwright Prize

Call for entries: 2017 Buckminster Fuller Challenge (international): \$100,000 prize to support the development and implementation of a design solution that addresses complex global problems; deadline: March 31 - Buckminster Fuller Institute

Call for entries: Speaker proposals for VERGE 2017 Conference and Expo on technology and sustainability, Santa Clara, CA, September 19-21; deadline: March 31 - GreenBiz / VERGE

This week at ARCspace

Jason Dibbs: Marina Tabassum Architects: Baitur Rauf Jame Mosque, Dhaka, Bangladesh: ...utilizes simple, unadorned materials and vernacular construction techniques to immense effect, emphasizing the interplay of light and shadow, and creating a space for religious reverie and transcendence. [images]

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Today's News - Thursday, January 26, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow and Monday will be no-newsletter days; we'll be back Tuesday, January 31.

- McKibben minces no words about "the steady demolition of 50 years' worth of environmental protection" under Trump: there's "a new day dawning, and we're sure as hell not going to use any of that sunlight for energy."
- Green parses "the domestic debate over climate change and the economic impact of environmental regulations," which "has reached a fever pitch."
- A bright note in a sea of bad news: the APA's Planners4Health initiative "will focus on greater coordination between planners and public health professionals at the state level" (but is CDC funding now frozen?).
- A Kresge Foundation's report rates American urban-focused professional associations re: their focus on climate change issues: "few have adopted a holistic approach that includes adaptation, mitigation and the explicit consideration of social justice" (AIA, ASLA, ULI, etc. make Tier 1).
- Dunlap debuts a new NYT series of "case studies in resilient design, focused on the NYC area that offer lessons to builders everywhere" - starting with SHoP's American Copper Buildings.
- Smallenberg cheers "NACTO Global Street Design Guide": despite "a few faults," it is an "invaluable guide" that "will help in reducing the guess work and sometimes incorrect assumptions when it comes to how streets really work."
- Jolliffe parses whether architects are "victims of their own rhetoric" by turning off the public with their "unintelligible, self-serving language" (with "hyperbolic vortex" and "tectonically honest place-making" - is there any doubt?).
- The U.K.'s Twentieth Century Society issues its Buildings at Risk 2017 list (better photos might make it more convincing).
- The 2017 International Garden Festival in Reford Gardens, Québec, will include six "Playsages" by six international teams.
- Kilston cheers a new map by AIA Los Angeles and NOMA that showcases landmarks by African-American Architects in L.A.
- Call for entries: an "intervention" for Revellín Plaza at Concéntrico 03, Logroño Architecture and Design Festival in Spain.
- One we couldn't resist: Orwell's "1984" tops Amazon's bestseller list (our favorite Amazon review: "Perfect Primer for POTUS 45").
- Weekend diversions:
 - "Phyllis Lambert: 75 Years At Work" at the Canadian Centre for Architecture offers "an autobiographical glimpse into the evolution of her ideas and work as an architect, activist, editor, and curator" (and celebrates her 90th birthday - Happy Birthday, Phyllis!).
 - Welton is looking forward to "Follies, Function & Form: Imagining Olana's Summer House" by a who's who at NYC's Center for Architecture.
 - Hess organizes the first exhibition of an FLW collaborator: "Aaron G. Green and California Organic Architecture" at the PVAC in L.A. highlights the "prolific and highly-regarded architect in his own right."
 - Kuma co-curates "Japan Unlayered" in Vancouver, "designed to be a sensory experience of Japanese culture through touch, taste, sight, sound and smell."
 - Ingalls cheers "Amplified Urbanism," LOHA's new monograph that "makes the case that it is time to start celebrating L.A.'s offbeat urbanism."

- 7 novels every architect should read: Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance." "The Little Prince," and, of course, "The Fountainhead" included.
- Diller is working on an opera for the High Line "appropriately coined the Mile Long Opera."



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Bill McKibben/350.org: A Bad Day for the Environment, with Many More to Come: Under Trump, we are about to witness the steady demolition of 50 years' worth of environmental protections: ...a new day dawning, and we're sure as hell not going to use any of that sunlight for energy. - New Yorker

Jared Green: Trump Orchestrates Major Shift on Climate and Environment: ...with its focus on rolling back environmental regulations and expanding fossil fuel extraction...also removed content on climate change from the White House website...the domestic debate over climate change and the economic impact of environmental regulations...has reached a fever pitch. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Building Local Capacity to Connect Planning and Public Health: APA is providing \$1.5 million in funding to 28 of its chapters through the Planners4Health initiative...will focus on greater coordination between planners and public health professionals at the state level. -- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); American Public Health Association (APHA) - American Planning Association (APA)

Report: Professional Societies and Climate Change: Most urban-focused professional societies in the U.S. are working to educate their members on climate change issues, but few have adopted a holistic approach that includes adaptation, mitigation and the explicit consideration of social justice. - Kresge Foundation

David W. Dunlap: Building to the Sky, With a Plan for Rising Waters: Twin apartment towers on the East River in Manhattan embody the concrete steps that builders are taking against the effects of extreme weather: The American Copper Buildings were designed so that tenants could live in their apartments for at least a week if the area floods. -- SHoP Architects; WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff; BuroHappold; Scape [images] - New York Times

Greg Smallenberg/PFS Studio: "NACTO Global Street Design Guide": ...from the National Association of City Transportation Officials...invaluable guide brings together extremely useful information and metrics...it will help in reducing the guess work and sometimes incorrect assumptions that many designers make when it comes to how streets really work. - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Eleanor Jolliffe: Are architects victims of their own rhetoric? How can we expect the public to engage with architects while they associate them with expensive minimalist schemes and unintelligible, self-serving language...By making our language, our concepts and our awards ever more impenetrable who exactly are we serving? - BD/Building Design (UK)

Twentieth Century Society sounds 'buildings in peril' alarm: ...has named

Holborn Library, in central London, and Durham University's Brutalist student union building on its latest top-10 buildings at risk list. -- Richard Raines/Architects' Co-Partnership; Levy and Cummings; G Noel Hill; Ted Hollamby; Rosemary Stjernstedt; Arthur Ling; Terence Gregory; Michael McLellan; William Lescaze; John Winter; Robert Maguire; Keith Murray; Giles Gilbert Scott; Adrian Gilbert Scott; James Melvin; Sauerbruch Hutton [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Six winning "Playsages" for the 2017 International Garden Festival in Reford Gardens, Québec, Canada. -- Collectif Escargo; Atelier YokYok; Gabriel Lacombe/Virginie Roy-Mazoyer; MANI; Johanna Ballhaus/Helen Wyss; Francisco A. Garcia Pérez and Alessandra Vignotto [images]- Bustler

Lyra Kilston: Little-Known Stories: Map Showcases More Than 50 Landmarks by African-American Architects in Los Angeles: ...from subway stations to libraries, hospitals... -- Debra Gerod/Jason E. Morris/Gruen Associates; Paul Revere Williams; Robert Kennard; Gabrielle Bullock; Roland A. Wiley; Valery Augustin; Norma Sklarek; Anne-Marie Armstrong; Elliot S. Barker; Charles E. Fleming/Carey K. Jenkins/Jenkins Fleming Architects; Drake Dillard; Harold L. Williams; Michael H. Anderson; Roland A. Wiley; AIA|LA; National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) [images]- KCET.org (California)

Call for entries: Design Competition and Intervention at Revellín Plaza at Concéntrico 03, Logroño, Spain, Architecture and Design Festival (international): will be part of the architectural collection of seven installations and one pavilion for the duration of the Festival; deadline: February 28- La Rioja Architects Cultural Foundation / Fundación Cultural de los Arquitectos de La Rioja (FCAR

Not an 'alternative fact': George Orwell's '1984' tops Amazon's bestseller list: The dystopian fiction drew flocks of book buyers after Trump advisor Kellyanne Conway's comment about "alternative facts"... "Trump takes doublethink to a new extreme"... - Los Angeles Times

As Phyllis Lambert Turns 90, Exhibition Examining Her Impact and Influence Opens in Montréal: Canadian Centre for Architecture...offering an autobiographical glimpse into the evolution of her ideas and work as an architect, activist, editor, and curator. "Phyllis Lambert: 75 Years At Work" [images]- ArchDaily

J. Michael Welton: In NYC, the Case of the Missing Summer House: Frederick Church sculpted the landscape at Olana for his painting...when his son drew up a detailed plan for the property in 1886, he curiously indicated a site...for a summer house...it was never built. But it's found new life today, through "Follies, Function & Form: Imagining Olana's Summer House" beginning on Jan. 31, at AIA NY's Center for Architecture in Manhattan. - Architects and Artisans

Alan Hess organizes first exhibition of Frank Lloyd Wright collaborator and California architect Aaron G. Green: "Aaron G. Green and California Organic Architecture" at the Palos Verdes Art Center (PVAC) in Los Angeles...a prolific and highly-regarded architect in his own right who spent six decades practicing architecture, mainly in the San Francisco area. - The Architect's Newspaper

Kengo Kuma co-curates exhibition on Japanese architecture for Fairmont

Pacific Rim, Vancouver: "Japan Unlayered" is designed to be a sensory experience that invites one to experience Japanese culture through touch, taste, sight, sound and smell. - Canadian Architect

Julia Ingalls: Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects pumps up the volume with "Amplified Urbanism": ...LOHA's' new monograph...takes pains to illuminate the Los Angeles's soul and vibe...essays serve as connective tissue between the bones of the architecture and the spirit of the concept...makes the case that it is time to start celebrating L.A.'s offbeat urbanism. [images] - Archinect

7 Novels Every Architect Should Read: These non-architectural novels each have their own qualities that could open up the architectural world... - ArchDaily

Elizabeth Diller is working on an opera for the High Line: ...expected to take place in 2019...appropriately coined the Mile Long Opera. Diller will be working with composer David Lang and sound designer Brude Odland for the project. -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro - The Architect's Newspaper

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Jason Dibbs: Marina Tabassum Architects: Baitur Rauf Jame Mosque, Dhaka, Bangladesh: ...utilizes simple, unadorned materials and vernacular construction techniques to immense effect, emphasizing the interplay of light and shadow, and creating a space for religious reverie and transcendence. [images]

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Today's News - Tuesday, January 31, 2017

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Vo Trong Nghia Architects' great bamboo pavilions in Ho Chi Minh City: "The elephant in the room is that there is no community to inhabit this 'Community Centre.'" - yet; they could end up as only "aestheticized pavilions in the landscape."
- Gore and others organize a climate change and health summit to replace the one canceled by CDC.
- Kamin cheers architects taking a "stand on Trump, climate change": "Kudos for showing that architects can have a moral compass and an ethical backbone," but "should they go further?"
- Szenasy's great Q&A with McDonough re: why he says "there needs to be a new language on carbon" - it's "not the enemy we face," but "an innocent bystander."
- Blitz considers how "FDR's dedication to infrastructure saved America once. Could a new dedication to infrastructure do it again" [under Trump]?
- Mexican designers have a few "polite suggestions for Trump," offering "a number of user-centered solutions that would make up for that big expense of a wall."
- Budds cheers Brooks + Scarpa's housing project for homeless vets in L.A., designed with the belief that "good design is a basic civil right" (though new HUD policies "could jeopardize future low-income developments" like this).
- Arieff parses "a housing crisis" for middle-class seniors: "Well-designed living arrangements for older adults aren't keeping pace with the growing need" (unless you're really rich or really poor).
- Hawthorne has (mostly) good things to say about Maltzan's plans to expand the Hammer Museum: "An institution that was originally designed to ignore the outside world now seems determined [to be] an urban museum for the first time."
- Anderton and Artsy have a lively conversation with Ingels re: his big idea for L.A.'s Arts District, "what makes an architect different from a politician (clue: it's about how each deals with conflict)," and his "outsized ability at persuading people to embrace his ideas."
- King x 2: He explains why he prefers to review new buildings once they're inhabited: "Only when there's activity at street level can we gauge if the newcomer connects with its surroundings - or if it wants to."
- He wanders Mission Bay and finds it (mostly) "on a winning track," though it's "apparent how careful planning doesn't always transfer to good architecture or lively streets" - sometimes "reality falls short of well-laid plans."
- Brussat parses the "elusive 'why' of preservation: preservation must rethink its raison d'être. Don't hold your breath."
- Kamin cheers NYC's Van Valkenburgh and a Chicago team selected to design the landscape surrounding the Obama Presidential Center, a project that presents "a significant and potentially controversial design challenge."
- Eyefuls of the 40 shortlisted projects vying for the 2017 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies Van Der Rohe Award (click on each image!).
- The stellar shortlist was announced last November - now we have images of the 10 designs for the U.K.'s National Holocaust Memorial in London.
- Meanwhile, 5 are in the running to top the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square that include a recreation of a sculpture destroyed by ISIS, and "a swirl of vanilla ice cream" topped with a cherry, a fly, and a drone.
- Taking a cue from Trafalgar Sq., the inaugural High Line Plinth will be topped by one of 12 shortlisted proposals (we're trying to grok how a brass elephant suspended upside down reflects "the future growth of cities and our relationship with the natural world" - huh?).
- One we couldn't resist: a round-up of AN's coverage of Trump, beginning with the "Pay Your Architect" sign at

the NYC Women's March (then on to more serious stuff).

- Call for entries: 2017 AZ Awards + Stone Barn Meditation Camp in Latvia + A' International Design Awards.

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This week at ARCSpace

Vo Trong Nghia Architects: Diamond Island Community Centre, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam: ...VTN seeks to expand the use of bamboo..."the green steel of the 21st century"...The elephant in the room is that there is no community to inhabit this 'Community Centre'...while the high-rise apartments are yet to be complete...structures may result as only aestheticised pavilions in the landscape. [images]

Al Gore and others will hold climate change summit canceled by CDC, February 16th in Atlanta: ...will hold the summit on climate change and health that was canceled by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. -- American Public Health Association; The Climate Reality Project; Harvard Global Health Institute; University of Washington Center for Health and the Global Environment; Howard Frumkin - The Verge

Blair Kamin: Architects take stand on Trump, climate change - but should they go further? ...it is heartening to see four architects...leading a national drive...Kudos...for showing that architects can have a moral compass and an ethical backbone...Should they play ball...even though he's undercutting U.S. efforts on climate change...A wiser idea...judge [his] infrastructure projects on a case-by-case basis before signing on to help design them. -- Krueck + Sexton; Architects Advocate - Chicago Tribune

Susan Szenasy: Why Architects Must Rethink Carbon (It's Not the Enemy We Face): Q&A with William McDonough: How did you come up with this idea, that there needs to be a new language on carbon? "Carbon, an otherwise lovely material, could be a problem in the wrong dose, duration, and place. Don't attack carbon. That's the part that upsets me in the language." - Metropolis Magazine

Matt Blitz: When America's Infrastructure Saved Democracy: FDR's dedication to infrastructure saved America once. Could a new dedication to infrastructure do it again? ...it's worth looking back..."Roosevelt had a comprehensive moral vision to improve the United States..." -- Gray Brechin/The Living New Deal; Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); Public Works Administration (PWA); Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) - Popular Mechanics

Luis Arnal and Roberto Holguin/ INSITUM: Mexican Designers Have Some Polite Suggestions For Trump: Innovation tips for a president who's woefully lacking in imagination: ...we have a number of user-centered solutions that would make up for that big expense of a wall. - Fast Company / Co.Design

Diana Budds: "Good Design Is A Basic Civil Right:" A Housing Project For Homeless Vets: ...The Six offers housing and support services to one of the city's most vulnerable populations...The problem is complex and nuanced, but...a new, 52-unit supportive housing project...aims to chip away at the epidemic...The Trump Administration's policies pertaining to HUD could jeopardize future low-income developments like the Six. -- Brooks + Scarpa - Fast Company / Co.Design

Allison Arieff: A Housing Crisis for Seniors: Well-designed living arrangements for older adults aren't keeping pace with the growing need: Better housing...exists at the lowest and the highest ends of the economic spectrum...Really good options are limited, particularly for the middle class. -- David Baker; Anne Fougeron; Perkins Eastman - New York Times

Christopher Hawthorne: Hammer Museum finally cues up a big expansion. Here's an early look: ...after years of effective but piecemeal upgrades...expansion is a surgical rather than a virtuosic or expressionistic one...An institution that was originally designed to ignore the outside world now seems determined...[to be] an urban museum for the first time. -- Edward Larrabee Barnes (1990); Michael Maltzan [images] - Los Angeles Times

DNA/Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy: Bjarke Ingels brings a BIG idea to L.A.'s Arts District Architecture: Will the anti-gentrification forces embrace [670 Mesquit] that brings architectural ambition - and massive change - to the area? Q&A re: what makes an architect different from a politician (clue: it's about how each deals with conflict.)...[he] possesses an outsize ability at persuading people to embrace his ideas... -- BIG- Bjarke Ingels Group [images, audio] - KCRW (Los Angeles)

John King: New buildings must be inhabited to come alive: When is a building fully complete and...ready for its close-up? Not as soon as you might think...Only when there's activity at street level can we gauge if the newcomer connects with its surroundings - or if it wants to... [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

John King: Mission Bay, Warriors' next home, on winning track with buildings: ...it becomes apparent how the newest set of buildings and spaces improve on what came before - and how careful planning doesn't always transfer to good architecture or lively streets...Four buildings frame the [Mission Bay Kids' Park], all but one trying hard to look more interesting than they are...reality falls short of well-laid plans. -- MVE + Partners; HKS Architects; Kennerly Architecture; Mithun [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

David Brussat: Elusive 'why' of preservation: The Hotel Pennsylvania, in Manhattan, is again at risk of demolition and replacement...Preservation organizations have not rallied to its defense...preservation must rethink its raison d'être. Don't hold your breath. - Architecture Here and There

Blair Kamin: Landscape designers named for the Obama Presidential Center: ...to be led by the designer of Chicago's 606 trail and Maggie Daley Park. Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates...will head the team...Landscape design issues represent a significant and potentially controversial design challenge for the center, which will be built in the Frederick Law Olmsted-designed Jackson Park. -- Ernie Wong/Site Design Group; Living Habitats/Heidi Natura; Tod

[Williams Billie Tsien Architects](#) - Chicago Tribune

[40 Shortlisted Projects Announced for the 2017 EU Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies Van Der Rohe Award: ...highlights the opportunities and the trends of today's European territory: cities, housing, heritage, and memory. \[click images for details\]](#) - European Commission / Mies van der Rohe Foundation

[Shortlist Gallery: 10 concept designs for the UK's National Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. -- Adjaye Associates/Ron Arad Architects/Gustafson Porter + Bowman/Plan A/DHA Designs/etc; Allied Works/Robert Montgomery/The Olin Studio/Ralph Appelbaum Associates/Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture; Anish Kapoor/Zaha Hadid Architects/Sophie Walker Studio/etc; Caruso St John Architects/Marcus Taylor/Rachel Whiteread/Vogt Landscape Architects/etc; Diamond Schmitt Architects/Ralph Appelbaum Associates/Martha Schwartz Partners/Arup; Foster + Partners/Michal Rovner/Tillotson Design Associates/etc; heneghan peng/Gustafson Porter + Bowman/Bruce Mau Design/etc; John McAslan + Partners/MASS Design Group/Lily Jencks Studio/Local Projects/etc; Lahdelma & Mahlamäki Architects/David Morley Architects/Ralph Appelbaum Associates/Hemgård Landscape Design/etc; Studio Libeskind/Martha Schwartz Partners/Haptic Architects/etc \[images, videos\]](#) - Malcolm Reading Consultants / UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

[Fourth Plinth Finalists Unveiled, With Subjects Ranging From Ice Cream to ISIS: ...for the Fourth Plinth, in Trafalgar Square...proposed sculptures range...from a...recreation of a sculpture destroyed by ISIS...\[to\] a swirl of vanilla ice cream, topped by a cherry, which has attracted a fly and a drone...on display at the National Gallery until March 26. \[images\]](#) - artnet News

[High Line Plinth: A new landmark destination for contemporary art: 12 shortlisted artists announced...inspired by the Fourth Plinth in London's Trafalgar Square...exhibition of...proposed artworks will be exhibited from February 9 to April 30 on the High Line at West 14th Street. \[images\]](#) - High Line

[Sign of the Times: "Pay Your Architect" says sign at the NYC Women's March: The Architecture Lobby spotted this poster... + Sign designating honorary "Trump Plaza" in Chicago removed + Trump proposes eliminating The National Endowment for the Arts + Trump puts NYC developers Richard LeFrak and Steven Roth in charge of infrastructure plan; etc. - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Call for entries: 2017 AZ Awards \(international\): honors the best architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design projects, products, concepts, and student work; earlybird submissions \(save money!\): February 1 \(final submissions deadline: February 21\)](#) - Azure magazine (Canada)

[Call for entries: Stone Barn Meditation Camp: a venue for wellness tourism...will serve as a guesthouse in a repurposed stone barn in Vidzeme, Latvia; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline \(save money!\): February 22; final registration: April 12 \(submissions due May 3\)](#) - Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

[Call for entries: A' International Design Award & Competition to recognize the best design works in all countries and in all creative disciplines; deadline:](#)

February 28 - A' Design Award & Competition

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